

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Yountville mayoral candidate Miss Terri in her front yard.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Yountville: Ready for a Change?

by Robert Julian

The old wooden house is surrounded by a white picket fence laden with shocking pink balloon bouquets and "Elect Miss Terri Mayor of Yountville" posters. In this small Napa Valley town, candidate Terri Pohrman holds court on the front porch, chatting with the visiting press and local voters. When a resident of the Yountville Veteran's Home strolls slowly up the walk, Pohrman's platinum blond head gears up for action.

"Hi!" she calls out, with a quick wave of her dragon-lady Lee Press-on's.

"Howdy," the visitor drawls. "I thought I'd stop by and get some information on how you stand here."

"Tall," the candidate instantly replies.

Half a dozen silver fox tails re-arrange themselves around Pohrman's neck as she rises to greet her electorate. Her black boots add 2 inches to a frame that is already 6 feet tall.

A few minutes later, Pohrman asks, "Did you know the Mustang Ranch had an outbreak of VD? It was the first one ever. One of the vets went up there and he told me. I said, 'Barbara Bush must have been there. That was no canker sore on her lip, it was herpes.'"

This kind of satire, combined with Pohrman's ribald sense of humor, have sent shock waves through a traditionally complacent commu-

(Continued on page 16)

Legal Chief Stays 8 Weeks At NGRA

by Dennis Conkin

Controversy flared last week at National Gay Rights Advocates when David Bryan, the public interest law firm's legal services director, confirmed that he was leaving the \$50,000 a year post less than two months after he took the job.

"I'm not sure how much I want to talk about it," Bryan told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's a tough question. Things just haven't worked out. It was a mutual decision. There were different ideas about the way to do things."

"I had my own ideas about the authority of the legal staff and the locations of the legal staff. I don't expect my ideas to be accepted right off the bat, but I... I really prefer not to discuss it," he said.

Bryan, who declined to further discuss the specifics of his departure, will return to Texas. The former head of the Texas Human Rights Foundation leaves his post on March 15.

"David's a fine attorney. That's not at question here at

(Continued on page 24)

Fired Lawyer Told to Tell HIV Status

by Dennis Conkin

National Gay Rights Advocates has been hit with charges that Board President Richard White asked Ben Schatz, who was fired as staff attorney in November 1989, his HIV status when he appealed for health insurance severance benefits.

"I was in shock. I just couldn't believe what I was hearing. It was so incredible. When I asked him about health insurance, he said, 'Well, what's your HIV status?'" Schatz told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"I think that if, in fact, his HIV status was a topic of conversation, it was around the need of services such as health

(Continued on page 24)

Nuns, Not Priests, Sought as Volunteers

by Michael C. Botkin

In a high-profile gesture that caused much controversy, Archbishop Roger Mahoney of Los Angeles has sent letters to almost 3,000 priests and nuns asking them to volunteer as experimental subjects for Dr. Jonas Salk's experimental AIDS vaccine.

However, Dr. Alexandra Levine of the Salk Institute said that in fact only nuns, "who are at essentially no risk of acquiring AIDS"—a qualification that apparently excludes the technically chaste priests—are being sought.

Salk's controversial vaccine has already been tested on chimpanzees and on people already infected with HIV, and is now ready to be tested on uninfected human beings.

Salk, according to recent press accounts, is so committed to the vaccine that he will participate in the trials and may be the first volunteer inoculated with the virus.

The vaccine is similar to Salk's famous polio vaccine in that it is derived from the virus

it seeks to control. Unlike the artificial compound HGP-30, which recently entered trials at San Francisco General Hospital, there is some risk that subjects could contract AIDS from the vaccine.

In theory, the Salk vaccine is therapeutic as well as preventative; in other words it can be used as a treatment for AIDS as well as a vaccine to prevent infection.

However, there is some question as to whether it is effective enough to make it a viable treatment for PWAs. Trials on a hundred HIVers have shown some mildly beneficial results from treatment with the Salk vaccine, but nothing very dramatic.

Dr. John Mills, a researcher at SFGH investigating the vaccine who will soon begin a second study with HIVers, is skeptical.

"If they don't get an immune response in this group, we should give up," Mills said.

Mahony's call for priests and

(Continued on page 20)



ACT UP activists protest the TVC meeting in Sacramento.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

ACT UP Zaps TVC Meeting in Sacramento

by Ken Topper

Members of ACT UP from around the Bay Area and Sacramento disrupted a Traditional Values Coalition conference at the Capital Hyatt Regency Hotel on Tuesday, March 13.

Inside the hotel, two separate demonstrations—in the lobby and at the TVC conference—led to the arrests of 29 activists on charges of trespassing, failure to disperse and disturbing the peace.

The protesters were released after being booked by police but warned not to return to the site of the protest.

A separate rally-protest was held at the same time outside the Sacramento Community Center. Speakers included City Council member Kim Mueller, the Rev. Merrill Follansbee and Jerry Sloan.

The informational rally was sponsored by Sacramento's

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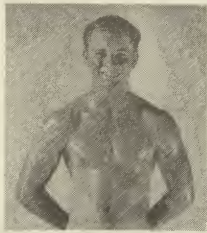
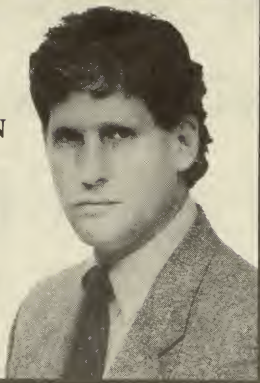
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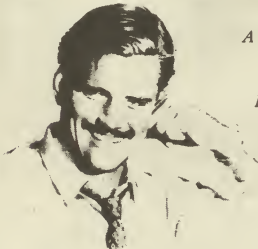
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Senators Unveil \$600 Million AIDS Emergency Proposal

by Cliff O'Neill

Senate leaders unveiled a massive AIDS care and disaster relief package at a Capitol Hill press conference March 6, bringing in actress and fundraiser Elizabeth Taylor to help them draw attention to the ongoing lack of access to treatment by people with AIDS and the mounting health-care crisis in hard-hit cities nationwide.

To face the problems of the ongoing crises, Sens. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) announced their introduction of the Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act of 1990, a massive package that would provide \$600 million in emergency aid to cities and states hit particularly hard by the epidemic and would expand access to treatment to early intervention services for the HIV infected.

The bill has already been co-sponsored by 16 other senators



Elizabeth Taylor

including Lloyd Bentsen (D-Texas), Alan Cranston (D-Calif) and Pete Wilson (R-Calif) and could see Senate floor action as early as April, according to Kennedy.

"AIDS is unmercifully killing people—people I know and love, and, I suspect, people you know and love," said Taylor, founding national chairperson of the American Foundation for AIDS Research. "But sadly, the darkest days of the AIDS crisis still lie ahead for us. Hundreds of thousands of lives hang in the balance unless we begin to confront AIDS as a true national emergency."

In her remarks, Taylor vowed to "not stop fighting" and "not be silent" until the Kennedy/Hatch bill is passed by Congress.

A day earlier, Taylor had met with first lady Barbara Bush to lobby her and the president on the bill and other AIDS issues. After her Senate side appearance, Taylor addressed a House budget committee and called for increased spending over Bush's budgeted fiscal

(Continued on page 23)



Swingin'

A sunny afternoon on Eureka Playground in the Castro.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Seattle OKs Benefits For Domestic Partners

by Rex Wockner

Seattle quietly became the largest city in America to provide health insurance and other benefits to gay city employees and their partners March 1, when a City Council measure that had placed the health benefits on hold expired.

The process began last April when the Human Rights Department determined that the absence of such benefits for unmarried partners violated the city's Fair Employment Ordinance. In response, the City Council in August granted city employees with domestic partners sick and bereavement leave rights. The possibility of health benefits for unmarried spouses, however, had been placed on hold three months earlier when the council learned that such a move could disqualify the city from deducting the premiums on its income taxes.

But in the intervening months, Congress repealed the problematic IRS statute, and when the Seattle suspension expired March 1, domestic

partners became eligible for insurance along with the other benefits.

About 300 employees are expected to sign their partners up for benefits, according to Shelly Cohen, an attorney who has lead the fight in Washington state on gay partnership issues.

The city will self-insure to cover the unmarried spouses because its insurance carrier, King County Medical Blue Shield, and its two health maintenance organizations, Group Health Cooperative and Pacific Medical, either refused coverage or offered it at a highly inflated rate.

In the months since sick and bereavement leave rights were granted, 50 employees registered their relationships—35 heterosexual couples, 15 lesbian couples and five gay male couples.

The new benefits face opposition from fundamentalist Christians who are collecting signatures to place a repeal ini-

tiative on the ballot. The group, Concerned Citizens For the Family, must turn in 13,000 signatures by March 28 to qualify.

Activists say the fundamentalists will likely not make the petition deadline because they are hindered by the fact that many supporters live in the suburbs.

When registering a domestic partner, city employees sign an affidavit swearing they are: at least 18 years old, economically interdependent and living together, not related in a way that would bar marriage, not married to someone else, and not partnered with more than one person.

If a partnership is terminated, a new domestic partner may be declared after 90 days.

Other cities providing health insurance to unmarried couples include Berkeley, West Hollywood and Santa Cruz in California, and Ottawa, Ontario.

Supes OK Permit for Vigil

by Dennis Conkin

At its March 12 meeting, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted to give the ARC/AIDS Vigil at United Nations Plaza a sixth-month revocable permit to continue its vigil on city property in front of the old Federal Building.

The vigil sought the permit following last June's roust of the five-tent encampment by the San Francisco Police Department following complaints by Walter Caplan, an attorney who owns a cafe in the plaza.

Although the Board has previously expressed support of the vigil and several members have been arrested during civil disobedience at the Federal Building in support of the vigil, the group had no use permit.

Last June, police swooped down on the vigil following meetings between the mayor's office and police brass and



The ARC/AIDS Vigil at United Nations Plaza.

(Photo: Rink)

gave the vigil an hour to tear down its tents and disperse or face arrest.

No gay leaders, vigil members or member of the Board of Supervisors was notified of the decision. Within minutes of the action, the site was crowded with ACT UP members, homeless activists, Tenderloin street people and other vigil supporters who formed a human ring around the property and waited for arrest.

The decision to evict the vigil was averted through the intervention of ACLU attorney

John Crew and Mayor Art Agnos who forged an agreement that allowed the group to remain.

Supervisors Wendy Nelder, Tom Hsieh and Willie Kennedy voted against giving the group the permit.

"I just don't feel right doing for one group and I can't do for another group," Kennedy said. "After 4½ years, if the federal government hasn't gotten the message, I don't think they're going to get it."

Kennedy said she could not

(Continued on page 13)

Community Bracing For Rights Ruling

by Dennis Conkin

Gay and civil rights activists are carefully awaiting the March 20 ruling of Superior Court Judge Ira Brown in *Ertag vs. Western Union*, a gay rights case that may scuttle the city's Human Rights Ordinance protecting local lesbians and gays from employment and housing discrimination.

Plaintiff Armando Ertag is suing Western Union under the San Francisco Human Rights Ordinance. Ertag alleges that he suffered employment discrimination at the corporation because he was gay.

"There are two legal issues," said gay rights attorney Matt Coles, who authored the 1979 ordinance.

"Everyone agrees that the city can pass laws that make things minor crimes, but there is some dispute whether the city can pass laws that are not enforced by criminal complaint but by allowing a person whose rights have been violated to bring a civil suit."

Coles's position is that the city has the right.

"In many states, cities have very limited powers, but in California a city has the power to do anything the state Legislature can do. The Legislature has the power to pass laws that are enforced by civil suits. If the Legislature can do it, the city can," Coles told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"The other issue is whether the state's Fair Employment and Housing Act, pre-empts local legislation that covers the same kinds of discrimination that it covers, the San Francisco ordinance would be OK because state law does not cover sexual orientation employment discrimination.

"But if you interpret the FEHA to take over the entire field of employment discrimination, then the San Francisco ordinance is invalid," Coles said.

National Center for Lesbian Rights Executive Director (Continued on page 22)

Sick Leave Measure Passes

by Dennis Conkin

A 2-1 vote of the Board of Supervisors Administration and Oversight Committee moved legislation implementing Propositions H and I out of committee on Tuesday, March 13.

The legislation, introduced by Supervisor Richard Hongisto, adds a section to the city charter enabling city employees to transfer unused sick leave and vacation credits to catastrophically ill employees.

The law will benefit hundreds of city workers suffering from AIDS, cancer and other life-threatening illnesses by allowing them to receive paychecks when they have exhausted their own benefits.

The ballot propositions authorizing the amendments were passed by voters last November.

The comprehensive ordinance defines catastrophic illness to be a life-threatening illness or injury that prevents the employee from returning to

(Continued on page 23)

Correction

Due to a typesetting error, in a story on HIV vaccine trials at San Francisco General Hospital that appeared in the *Bay Area Reporter* on March 8, Dr. James Kahn was misquoted as saying, "You could knowingly expose someone to HIV. The sentence should have read: 'You could not knowing y expose someone to HIV.'"

In the March 1 issue of *Bay Area Reporter*, Martin Ornelas of Community United In Response to AIDS (SIDA) was misidentified as a spokesman for Community United Against Violence.

The *Bay Area Reporter* regrets the errors. ▼



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RETAIL ENTERTAINMENT!

Making the System Work Better

by Michael C. Botkin

Although the lure of big bucks has spurred the development of treatments for HIV in this country, the same profit motive has led insurers to dump undesirables (in specific PWAs; in general anyone they think is gay) and drug corporations to avoid treatments that lack profit potential.

In the conclusion of this three-part series on capitalism and AIDS, we'll look at how we can make the system work better.

The federal government, specifically the Food and Drug Administration, cries out for attention in this regard. The FDA is supposed to protect us from quacks and charlatans. In practice it often protects only the profits of drug corporations and the methods of the stodgiest, most mainstream physicians.

John James, editor of *AIDS Treatment News*, offers the most frequent and best critique of the clinical trial system in place. In brief, the

convoluted system employed by the federal government is so expensive and so time consuming that only the titans of the industry can even contemplate putting up the money to get a treatment approved.

James has proposed that, with proper scientific techniques, the average two-year drug trial could be reduced to a few weeks. The major change he would make is using lab markers (like T-cells and p24 antigen counts) as "end-points" to the study, instead of the "subject's" death.

The federal government will not accept information from outside the United States in evaluating treatments. Drugs that have been safely used for years in other countries have to be tested all over to get approval here. Compound Q was used for years in China, and Passive Immunotherapy has already been tested in England—but all U.S. trials of these treatments had to start from scratch.

Deregulation Needed

We need massive deregulation. This would open up research to a far wider range of companies and make treatments for HIV—and everything else—more profitable. The medical mainstream howls in horror at the notion. Without federal regulation, they say, quacks will move in to exploit the masses.

I've seen plenty of quacks among the "great white fathers" of the medical profession (as my mother used to call them), and plenty of exploitation by doctors, insurers and drug companies. Is it better to die from lack of treatment or mistreatment? I'd just as soon choose for myself, thanks, rather than have the decision made for me as it now is. Personally, I'm an educated consumer and don't think I need the FDA to protect me, especially if they insist on "protecting" me from the treatments I need to stay alive.

In addition to removing restraints from research, the Fed should do more to encourage it, for example by funding community-based research groups. Some 18 "community-based" research groups are getting federal funding, but people involved

in this process say that the government is strangling these programs in so much red tape that they're no faster than official research.

Also, about half of these "community" groups are really academic institutions that are gussied up with a little bit of grassroots garnish in order to horn in on the grant money.

The other major barrier in the war against AIDS is access to treatment. It is time to bite the bullet and face up to a simple fact that this country has skirted around for years—we need socialized medicine.

The trend toward health maintenance organizations is an inadequate half-measure that combines the worst of socialized medicine (lack of choice) with the worst of capitalist medicine (lack of treatment). It is clear that "traditional" insurance is on the way out, targeted for extinction by ballooning medical costs. Because it has to be replaced by something, we

may as well replace it with something good.

Powerful Incentive

Socialized medicine, such as they have in Europe, offers powerful incentives for prevention and universal access. When you are responsible for the health of everyone in a given area, it makes sense to provide early treatment—if you don't you get stuck with the far more expensive bill for late treatment just a little down the road. It also gives incentive to treat everyone because untreated people are a reservoir of infection.

Finally, the insurance industry is too powerful—witness the disgusting spectacle of Proposition 103. First they spend unheard of amounts to defeat attempts at regulation. Then, when they lose fair and square, they tie up the passed legislation in court. Money has no morals, and this is the biggest weakness of

(Continued on page 27)

CLOSET

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AIDS Briefs

Oral KS Tied to Sexual Diseases

Kaposi's sarcoma of the mouth in some HIV-infected gay men may be linked to a past history of sexually transmitted disease, according to new study findings by dental researchers at the University of California, San Francisco Oral AIDS Center. Caroline Dodd, principal study investigator, said the UCSF team examined 112 AIDS patients with Kaposi's sarcoma between 1985-89. The most common cancer associated with AIDS, Kaposi's sarcoma, or KS, is seen more frequently among homosexual and bisexual males than any other group at high risk for developing AIDS, Dodd said. UCSF study results indicated the risk for developing Kaposi's sarcoma in the mouth is markedly increased among patients with a past history of sexually transmitted diseases, particularly those who previously had gonorrhea or anal or genital warts. These patients were 2.5 times more likely than other study participants to develop oral KS as the first manifestation of Kaposi's sarcoma, according to Dodd. A past history of syphilis, however, did not appear to lead to increased risk. "These findings raise the possibility of a sexually transmitted agent as a co-factor for developing oral KS," Dodd said. Of the patients in the UCSF study, 20 developed oral KS before developing Kaposi's sarcoma on the skin, and 30 developed oral and skin KS simultaneously.

UC Wins \$8.7 Million Grant

UC San Francisco researchers have received \$8.7 million from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to seek better ways to help people get off drugs and thus slow the spread of AIDS. The five-year grant will support a new "San Francisco Treatment Research Unit," a collaboration between the UCSF-affiliated San Francisco General and VA Medical Centers, the Bayview-Hunter's Point Foundation and the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Projects will include a new clinic at the VAMC that will be capable of caring for 75 patients at one time while offering innovative new drug abuse treatments to both veterans and non-veterans. Patients will include IV drug users, who can contract AIDS by sharing contaminated needles, and those who smoke crack cocaine.

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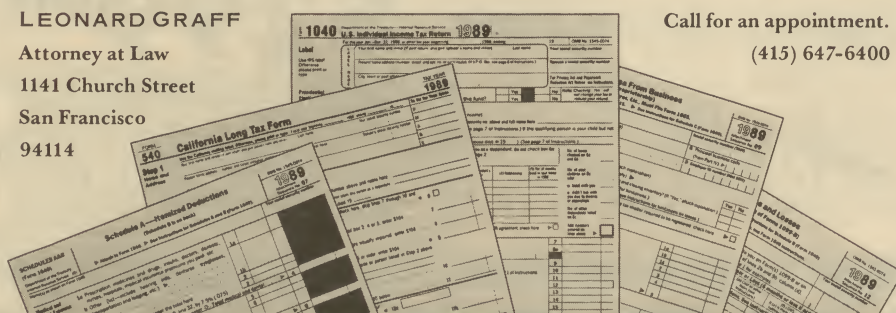
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Health Calendar

FRIDAY

Caregivers Conference: A series of lectures for individuals who are responsible for the care of ill or aging loved ones. Begins 8:30 a.m. Health Access members free, non-members \$15. Merritt Peralta Health Education Center, 400 Hawthorne Ave., Oakland. Call 420-6737.

Life and Living Workshops for AIDS/ARC/HIV+ Caregivers: Mar. 16-18 conducted by the staff of The Friends of Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, SF. Call Kairos House, 861-0877.

Face to Face, Sonoma County AIDS Network: Two training sessions, Mar. 16-18 and Mar. 23-25, to train volunteers to work with people with AIDS. Fri. 7-10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Community Hospital, 3325 Chanate, Santa Rosa. Registration, 887-1581.

HIV+ Potluck: 7:30 p.m. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Young Lesbian Rap Group: For those 23 and under. Meets Fridays, 7-9 p.m., ending April 6. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Young Gay Men's Rap Group: For those 23 and under. Meets Fridays, 7-9 p.m. This is a non-therapy rap group conceived and conducted by gay & bisexual young men. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Living Well With AIDS/ARC: Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

SATURDAY

Starting to Heal Yourself: Workshop with therapist and author Meir Schneider, PhD. on Mar. 17, 1-7 p.m., at the Yoga Center of Marin, 142 Redwood Ave., Corte Madera. 665-9574.

Accepting Ourselves: Addiction and codependency workshop for gay men and lesbians by author Sheppard Kominars, PhD., and therapist Mimi Goodwin. 1-3 p.m. \$5. The Parsonage, 552-2909.

Women With Wings—In Constant Motion: For women with HIV. Alternate Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sliding scale. SF location. 695-1254.

Women's Clinic: Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STD, bladder & pregnancy testing. Health care by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.

SUNDAY

Afternoon Tea: Come play games & socialize, 2-7 p.m. For PWA/PWARC/PWHIVs. Free. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

Men's Clinic: Free & confidential VD testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, venereal warts, etc. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. 6-8 p.m. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 644-0425.

MONDAY

Love & Sex Addiction—There is a Way Out: Talk by author Pia Mellody, *Facing Codependence*. Mar. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 1500 Van Ness, SF. \$20 at Ticketron or door. Call (408) 659-3392.

Support Group for Older Gay Men (60+): Every Monday, 7-9 p.m. 1853 Market St., SF. GLOE, 626-7000.

HIV+ Support Groups—Hayward & Tri-Valley Areas: A variety of emotional support groups for PWAs, HIV+s, friends, families & lovers. A safe place to share your feelings. Meets every Monday and Wednesday. 887-0566.

TUESDAY

Past Lives—Their Effect on Your Current and Future Lives: Talk by Carol Loch, MA, CHT, at 7 p.m. Amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness, SF. 775-0227.

Free Drop-In Group for Gay Men with Drug/Alcohol Problems: Every Tuesday, 7-8:30 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.

Lesbian Psychotherapy Group: 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Call 626-7000 for appointment.

Asian Gay Men's Support Group: 6:30-8 p.m. The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 548-8283.

WEDNESDAY

Suicide—The Right to Die With Dignity: 3rd Wednesdays Community Forum sponsored by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel and People With AIDS/SF. Guests: Lisa Capalini, MD, Molly Cooke, MD, Virginia Palmer, Esq. 6:30-8 p.m. at 25 Van Ness, 3rd floor conference room. 864-8186.

Codependency at Home and in the Workplace: Free 9-week course starts Mar. 22, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Everett Middle School, 450 Church, SF.

Moving Towards Life: A cancer self-care program based on the use of visualization, movement and the creative process by Anna Halprin with Jamie McHugh. Wednesdays until Apr. 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Tamalpa Institute, Kentfield. 461-9479.

AIDS/HIV Drop-In Group for Asians/Pacific Islanders: Weekly, 6-7:30 p.m., for information, support and referral. Conducted in English, Cantonese and Mandarin. Free. Asian AIDS Project, 300 4th St., Suite 401, SF.

THURSDAY

Insurance/Employee Benefits Clinic: 6:15, 7 & 7:45 p.m. every Thursday. Free 45 min. private session with an attorney on benefits, COBRA and insurance problems. AIDS Legal Referral Panel, 24 Hickory/Van Ness, SF. 864-8186.

AIDS Family Project: Daytime support group for friends, family & lovers of people with AIDS/ARC/HIV concerns—beginning mid-March. 10 week commitment. Thursdays, 2:30-4 p.m. Ken or Kathy, 626-7000.

Critics Seize on Deaths As Proof ddI is Unsafe

by Michael C. Botkin

In what some observers consider an attempt to bad-mouth "parallel access" to experimental drugs, the deaths of six PWAs taking ddI is being attributed to side effects of that treatment.

Bristol-Myers/Squibb, the manufacturer of ddI, is the first drug company to make an experimental treatment available outside of official drug trials. Those who criticized the firm's "expanded distribution program" as unsafe have seized upon the recently released information as proof that drug trials must be pursued slowly and carefully.

A total of 305 people receiving ddI have died since beginning treatment with the drug, and all but 15 of those deaths involved HIVers receiving ddI via the expanded distribution program. Six of the PWAs—five from the expanded distribution program—died from pancreatitis. Damage to the pancreas is known to be a possible serious side effect of ddI.

These statistics have led some to conclude that parallel access is more dangerous than controlled clinical trials. An article from the

Washington Post, which also ran in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, claimed "...the deaths have shown clearly the risks involved in widely distributing drugs before they have been fully tested."

These claims seem exaggerated given that 8,000 people are getting ddI through expanded access while only 700 are signed up in the official phase II trials, a detail ignored in most coverage of the deaths.

Given that there are more than 10 times as many people in the expanded access as there are in the trials, the percentage of people who died from pancreatitis is actually twice as high as in the "controlled" study as it is in the presumably less safe expanded distribution program.

Many AIDS activists consider the negative reaction in the mainstream media a result of bias against those in favor of speeding up the drug approval process.

"Many of the patients in the expanded distribution program are much sicker, much closer to death when they enter the study than the people in the trials," said Catherine

Bloom, a spokesperson for Bristol-Myers.

The expanded access program is only open to people who are seriously ill and have no alternatives to ddI, unlike the official trials that accept fairly healthy HIVers.

Bloom also questioned whether the pancreatitis reported was necessarily a result of ddI.

"We don't know for sure that ddI caused this. Many of the patients were on other drugs that could have caused it, or could have interacted with ddI. Alcohol abuse can also cause pancreatitis."

For the increasing number of HIVers who can't tolerate the side effects of AZT, ddI is often considered the best alternative treatment, even though it is still being tested.

Although AIDS activists hailed Bristol-Myers' expanded access program as an important step toward making treatments for HIV widely available, some researchers fear such programs will make it harder for them to recruit subjects for official trials. ▼

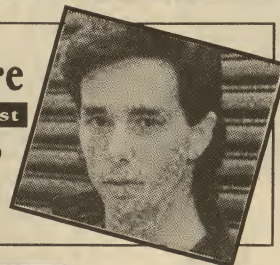
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Bay Area Reporter Open Forum

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EDITORIAL

Democracy?

By huge margins, voters approved Propositions H and I, which permit city workers to transfer sick leave and vacation credits to co-workers suffering from catastrophic illnesses. The people spoke. But some City Hall politicians do not seem to care.

A joint commission of several city agencies was supposed to meet and prepare proposed rules for implementing the sick leave transfer program. This was to occur within 60 days from the date the charter amendments were certified. The time has come and gone, and all that the joint commission has to show for its efforts is a half-hearted proposal that throttles the will of the people. And still, that plan has not been presented to the Board of Supervisors.

Keeping faith with voters is Supervisor Richard Hongisto, the sponsor of the charter amendments. Hongisto has crafted truly landmark legislation to carry out the voters' will. Hongisto offers greater benefits, stronger confidentiality protections, removes any authority for the Health Department to test people, establishes a seven-member commission to review the performance of city agencies in carrying out the transfer program, gives employees a way of receiving benefits while retaining anonymity if they choose, a means of advertising the program among employees, and retroactively implements the program to the date the charter amendments took effect.

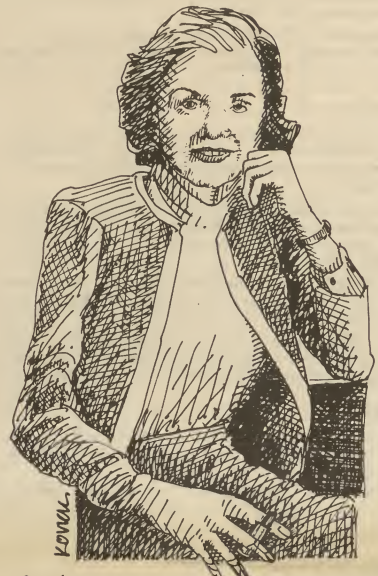
The Hongisto plan moved out of the Administration and Oversight Committee yesterday with strong support from Supervisors Harry Britt and Terence Hallinan. Unfortunately, Supervisor Tom Hsieh continued his never-ending campaign against the plan. Hsieh opposed the sick leave transfer before it reached the ballot and since. Perhaps Supervisor Hsieh needs to be reminded that his oath of office requires him to uphold the Constitution and City Charter. The sick leave program is a part of that charter. The voters have spoken. They demand an end to the foot dragging. People with AIDS, cancer, and other catastrophic illnesses are in desperate need of the support offered under the Hongisto plan.

Hongisto's plan comes before the Board on Monday. We urge all lesbians and gay men to call supervisors and demand that the voters' wishes be affirmed. And Hsieh ought to be asked why he wants to erect a replica of the Goddess of Democracy in Golden Gate Park when he obviously has no understanding of her meaning.

Supervisors: Alioto (554-7788); Gonzalez (554-5338); Hsieh (554-5015); Kennedy (554-5734); Maher (554-5401); Nelder (554-5497); Walker (554-5943); and Ward (554-5867).

DIANNE

AHEAD IN THE POLLS!



SHE'S ALSO THE ONLY CANDIDATE WHO KNOWS HOW TO WEAR LIPSTICK (DESPITE WHAT PETE WILSON MIGHT SAY.)

GUEST OPINION

Don't Blame ACT UP

I would like to respond to Mr. Peter Davey's letter (Feb. 15, 1990) and those others who think a pink triangle is a New Age truffle. What kind of friends do they have?

You see, I don't really know what type of "support" they feel we are losing due to the activities of ACT UP and SANOE. I sure as hell haven't received any support of the kind I'm afraid of losing. In any case, if Mr. Davey knows of some cache of support I wish he would share this information with us so we all could drink from the well before it runs dry.

Aren't any of these "Uncle Toms" aware of the fact that any civil liberties we enjoy are the product of some person's sacrifice and willingness to fight for the freedoms supposedly guaranteed to all of us on paper? Haven't they been taught that it is their responsibility as members of a democratic society to educate "Those who don't see what we see everyday, go through everyday. . .?"

These folk may feel worried that they are going to lose their "friends" due to the fact that some caring people dare to stop traffic on a bridge or protest at a church, or lie down on Wall Street because they refuse to accept the ongoing tragedy, the injustice, the social genocide of the disenfranchised in this country. What kind of friends do these status-quo queens think we have in those that are so offended? Sometimes civil disobedience is called for. I think this is one of those times. We are not only protesting to improve our lot. We are fighting for the safety of our whole society. We are fighting the ignorance and prejudice that is so detrimental to us all (except maybe, Mr. Davey and his kind). Don't these people feel this is a noble enough cause? Haven't they learned yet that no one is willing to allow them any rights because they were good little boys and girls who sat at home watching porno videos and didn't make waves?

Unfortunately, it is true. They are to blame if they choose to do nothing. Any one of our forefathers might have told them so. Did they at least vote in the last election? I personally knew of many

gay people who didn't even bother—not even for the right to have our relationships recognized by our government. If you are one of these people you should be ashamed, not only as gay men and lesbians, but more so as Americans. You are responsible for your own oppression if you make no effort or take no time to protect the precious little rights you have. Even further, if you feel you have some real justification for not supporting groups like ACT UP and SANOE (except your own greed and selfishness), then you are truly ignorant of some fundamental principles about our society and its history. Why are you so afraid? At least Rock Hudson had an excuse. What is yours?

The embarrassment you feel because of the social protests occurring in your name may force you to face your own self-hatred and internalized acceptance of the prejudice from which you would rather hide. I'm soooo sorry. Don't blame ACT UP for that. Don't blame the victims.

In my opinion, it would be much more productive to turn that anger and sorrow you feel into some positive action, instead of getting distracted by pseudo-indignities like being upset over the usage of the word "queer" or worrying about man's inhumanity to mice. There are many, many more important things to which you might direct your ire.

The facts are in: ACT UP gets results—not only so we can die with dignity and some self-esteem, but so we can live and be proud of what we are. Maybe someday people like Mr. Davey will realize that coming out of the closet doesn't happen just once. If you are vital it happens everyday. Just like the first time, you may lose some of your "friends." Screw 'em if they abandon you, they're not really your friends to begin with. Your rights are under attack. Don't sit in the bar with your finger up your ass.

Finally, if you refuse to accept your responsibility to speak out and demand your rights, then place, at least don't knock those that are doing your work for you. You cannot hide from prejudice. Our enemies will not be appeased by our good nature. They are happy only with our subjugation. It is to this circumstance that we choose to be non-productive. In the meantime, please feel free to enjoy the Opera.

Bill Escoff

LETTERS

We Are the Same

★ As a result of reading Dave Ford's column, "Scene & Herd," I am moved to express my opinion regarding the article "Straight Hate" (March 1), and once again, on other matters discussed in your publication recently, such as "Gays against Gays".

No, Mr. Ford, you are not alone in a lot of your anger at those who espouse "ghettoization vs. assimilation". If I read you correctly, you should be proud of yourself for showing some social consciousness in an era full of mindless twists.

However, on the other hand we could be very careful as to the extent we will accept assimilating to others in our extremely homophobic society. We are *still* the last taboo.

I too, have some very close and dear friends who are "straight" (heterosexual), who have accompanied myself and my lover to the Castro area and the Polk Street bars, restaurants and events only to face the unsolicited rejection and attitudes of separatism of the mostly younger aggressively gay patrons.

I find this attitude repugnant, and I have found this attitude more among those in the Castro area than along Polk Street, an area that I feel more comfortable in personally. Segregation of any kind, black/white, gay/straight, etc., etc., should have become an outdated practice by now, because we are supposed to be an educated, civilized society.

However, if we, the gay community, are going to practice separatism against those that have straight friends or are heterosexual themselves, than aren't we just as horrible as the Nazi skinheads?? If not, why not?? What is the good of hatred just because someone is different? Isn't the right be different not just ours, what we fought for in the sixties and seventies?

I am in agreement that we do need a place and times to celebrate our "differentness" and we have that in the Lesbian Gay Freedom Day Parade to a large extent. The place should not have to be a bar. Bars have always been known to be an open place for *everyone* to gather. Besides I have friends that do not like alcohol and I respect their feelings even though I may not always agree. Instead of carving up the bars between his/hers, etc., to the point of being petty, I suggest and would support enthusiastically, what has already been suggested: mainly a Lesbian/Gay Community Center that is *non religious* where we could gather for daily events such as playing dominoes, bingo, ceramics, basket weaving, talking over a cup of coffee, dishing the daily dirt or other such fun activities; just socializing, being ourselves in both the Polk and Castro street areas. It is time for us to build our own community centers in both areas and I think it would be appropriate to name them after our lesbian and gay leaders such as Harvey Milk.

I hope we can find the peace we are looking for; see how we are really all the same and not just the differences.

David L. Maze
San Francisco

Reconsider, Page

★ Regarding the "split" between the lesbian and gay male communities here in San Francisco.

After living in a few other places and states, I came to San Francisco in August 1982. My lifemate, Donnie, came here in June 1982 from Milwaukee. We met in spring 1983 and have been together as a couple ever since. We have wanted to meet lesbian couples (or singles) so we could have *women* friends here, also. We never had much luck, really. Maybe we just weren't in the right place at the right time...

One possibility for not intermingling with the opposite sex could be the sheer size of the community here. The massiveness of the gay community allows people to separate into many smaller factions. We become different little groups held together by mutual interests, whether it be musical tastes, politics, drinkers and/or non-drinkers, leather people, etc.

Ronald Bayles made a good point in his letter "Why Three Democratic Clubs?" Why indeed?

In July 1988, Donnie and I moved to Seattle for a year and a half. A funny thing happened there. At the end of that first year, we had a dozen good, close lesbian friends, including two couples in the group!

With the gay community being smaller in Seattle, people seem to be more open and friendly to each other. There is a definite feeling of "oneness" between the women and men. We all meshed together.

The letter that prompted me to write was from Linda and Kathy concerning men not being allowed into women's clubs. Surely, everyone must have noticed what has happened to South of Market. Lots of our clubs are no more. We don't

need discrimination within our ranks; there is enough on the outside already. Community unity must live every day, not just during parade week. I hope Page Model will reconsider.

David Pittman
San Francisco

★ Bravo to the letter sent in by Linda and Kathy titled, "Let Gay Men In."

Either I am living in fantasy land, or I am just a fool, but I thought the days of discrimination between gays and lesbians was over. In the mid '70s I was taking my life in my hands if I dared to go to such places as Wild Side West or Amelia's. I wasn't going there to hog the bar. I was going there to meet a friend. As time went on I was able to even go to Amelia's on my own, without a female "bodyguard."

These days, just about the only bar I go to is Castro Station. In all the years, I have never seen or heard of any discrimination against women. I wouldn't be a patron of the place if that sort of hatred was going down.

One would think that with all the trouble the gay/lesbian community has been having during the past decade, that we would know better. I surmise that there are still those out there who never learn. They will continue their lives on a course that was borne out of hate. I just hope that they don't indoctrinate this lifestyle onto others.

Peter J. Davey
San Francisco

Dribble

★ The Allen White "Van de Kamp Downplays Gay" article was misleading at best. In reading the page, anyone could see it was not the act of Van de Kamp but Stonewall that voided the schedule that would have placed him before the Feinstein disappointment and the Stonewall club.

Where, pray tell, will the B.A.R. take its readers? While she was our mayor seducing the Castro with words and not action, I could not help but notice the unsolicited support we were getting from Van de Kamp. I've never spoken to the coalition to elect him but I will.

Art Agnos is a much better mayor, and John would be a much better governor.

However, any paper that publishes Dave Ford's *Less Talk* is allowed a mistake.

Monte Hill
Bartender, D.J.'s
Walnut Creek

Editor's Note: Dave Ford's Bay Area Reporter column is called "Scene and Herd"; Mr. Hill is also allowed a mistake.

Alien Nation

★ Alright, how's this for a plot? Aliens have brought down to Earth a love drug that causes whoever has taken it to fall madly in love with the first person he/she meets.

In this case, the drugged person is a man and the first person he meets is a hunky cop, who happens to be straight, and very upset about his new-found lover.

But, the drugged person ends up saving the cop's life, and in the last scene, they end up hugging each other.

Damn, Gabbert may be afraid of fags, but Fox TV sure ain't! I don't know who the writers are, but I want them to write a plot for my next mud video!

Brother Duke
Club MUD, Rio Nido, CA

Thanks to ACT UP/East Bay

★ Thanks to the efforts of ACT UP/East Bay the Oakland City Council's Budget Committee will hold a hearing on AIDS Funding on Tuesday, March 20 at 2 p.m. in the Lake Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. (off Grand) near Lake Merritt. This is the first time Oakland is considering AIDS funding, having left everything up to the County.

I urge B.A.R. Oakland readers to attend the hearing. If you can't make it, send a card or letter of support to your council member with a copy to the Mayor at 505-14th Street, Oakland, 94612. Tell the Council to fund as much as possible to make up for nine years of neglect.

John Iverson
Oakland

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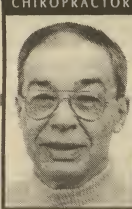
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LETTERS

Leather Irregularities

The following letter was sent to Guy Baldwin, International Mr. Leather, Los Angeles, CA.

★ Enclosed is my person check in the amount of \$25 toward the International Mr. Leather Travel Fund. I'm sorry I couldn't get it to you in person, but I either wasn't sent one or the invitation was lost in the mail.

As you know, Guy, the IML Travel Fund was started during the year when San Francisco's Patrick Toner held the IML title. With the generous help of San Francisco's leather community some \$2,000 was the initial amount established to help the annual winner travel to the many places to enhance the leather image and to help other communities raise much-needed funds.

Since that time, the incumbents/elected winners of the IML title were expected to use the travel fund and replenish it as best they could (with the help of their leather community) for their successor(s).

It is my understanding that the invited guests to the fundraiser held in your honor on Sunday, March 4, were asked for a minimum of \$25 with checks made payable to the JTF Enterprises in Seattle. Apparently the contributions given that day were to be split in half to benefit the IML Travel Fund and who or whatever JTF Enterprises in Seattle may be.

A lot of men in our community are unaware of what JTF Enterprises may be or even what it stands for and the matter remains a mystery in our community; however, we hope your travel fund was greatly enhanced/replenished as a result of the fundraiser on March 4.

Always in the past in San Francisco, fundraisers for the IML Travel Fund have gone *wholly* to the incumbent. Everything is/was donated including food, beverages, invitations/postage costs, etc. Absolutely *nothing* was deducted and each invitee either gave cash or checks payable to the current IML incumbent.

We have no knowledge of what JTF Enterprises in Seattle represents, but an investigation is in the process of initiation and should there be any irregularities, we assure you corrective action will be taken to prevent this sort of thing from happening again. We do appreciate all the good things you have done during your year as International Mr. Leather and we look forward to seeing you when you take your final walk in Chicago on Memorial Day Weekend. And thanks for a job well done.

(Mister) Marcus Hernandez
San Francisco

Arrest Was Protested

★ Thomas Lundquist and your readers should know that by the time his letter had appeared in *B.A.R.*, the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee had already acted in the Dennis Peron marijuana case.

At its Feb. 28 meeting, the SFDCCC voted overwhelmingly in favor of protesting the marijuana arrest of Dennis Peron to the chief of police, the district attorney and to the director of the Office of Citizen Complaints.

Furthermore, the SFDCCC expressed to those three agencies its grave concern about police harassment of Dennis Peron

Simeon White
Member, Democratic County
Central Committee

Fight Tyranny

★ I'm sure you've heard of my troubles concerning my recent arrest for marijuana. It was an arrest in 1977 that precipitated my sponsorship of Proposition W in 1978. That proposition passed by 57 percent. Tragically, the person that was going to see it enforced was assassinated two weeks later. That person was Harvey Milk. He's dead, but his dream of justice isn't.

Since then we've had the phony Republican "war on drugs" which is really a war on people. We've seen money for prisons and police, yet precious little for rehabilitation and prevention. We've seen our work force humiliated with mandatory urine testing, threatened with loss of jobs, homes and children. Harvey would not have taken this silently.

This is a dark hour for me, and a dark hour for America. We are at a juncture where if we don't fight back, our country will soon be a police state with the Bill of Rights ignored and civil liberties destroyed.

It is for this reason that I ask your help and your support. I don't have all the answers to our drug problems. I do know that what we are doing is not working I ask you for the courage to speak out against this tyranny and join the people of

San Francisco to stop this injustice and to support Prop W and me in my dream of a more just society.

Dennis Peron
San Francisco

In Defense of ACT UP

★ The vitriolic letter to the editor in last week's *B.A.R.* from Mr. Sikes and friend does, I feel, obviate the need for a clear—albeit partial—response regarding his attack on ACT UP.

Either by a quantum leap of imagination or by his own blind contempt, Mr. Sikes seems to imply that ACT UP is in some way responsible for the heinous, irremissible harassment of the PNA, which was reported on several weeks ago.

Furthermore, he quantifies his diatribe by injecting the inflammatory buzz words "facist" (my!), "terrorist" (please!), "ultra fringe element" (get a grip girls!) assigning them to the one group within our community who has consistently been the most active and uncompromisingly vocal against those very forces attacking lesbian and gay rights. Thanks for your share Mr. Sikes, but this fag isn't buying it.

The real reprehensible activity here—aside from the aforementioned incident—is your total disregard and obvious distaste to the diversity in which certain segments (not fringe elements) of our community choose to act upon their anger and frustration to initiate change.

Because disagreement is a natural consequence of living in a world where people are different in their perceptions, it is no secret and certainly there's no shame in the fact that there is some degree of divisiveness within the community as far as how best to approach the issues surrounding not only AIDS but sexism, racism, classism, violence against women (see rape, see Operation Rescue) and religious fanaticism.

ACT UP, contrary to your insinuation Mr. Sikes, is committed to non-violence and does not, as you imply, promote terrorism, facism or any other "ism"—save for activism. We are committed to direct action (i.e., civil disobedience) and we realize that not all within our community are sympathetic to our actions.

We also realize that we're not beyond reproach. Mistakes are made, egos get bruised, sensibilities are strained. That having been said, the bottom line is that like many others we're doing *something* and for that, Mr. Sikes, we offer you and your ilk NO FUCKING APOLIGIES!!

If you choose to see our rattling the cage of your own tired, atypical complacency as being somehow facist—then so be it. Sorry hon. Just keep in mind that while you choose to yip and bitch at your tired-ass card parties and yes, even at Sunday's all so important brunch that we, like others will be fighting the good fight. Fuck you.

Ray Russ
San Francisco

Overpriced

★ Which came first? Bourgeois banality in gay literature or \$40 admission tickets to gay literary events?

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

Homophobes Abound

This letter was sent to the San Francisco Chronicle:

★ Andy Rooney's recent homophobic attack has sure brought the good-old-boy journalistic network out of the closet. Why does your Joe Bobb Briggs choose to compare Louis Nizer, a victim of the McCarthy Era, to one who is attempting to victimize an already oppressed people—fighting for our civil rights? Is this some misguided loyalty to the old guard or is he merely supporting a fellow homophobe?

He is correct in drawing on the 1950s for comparison, for like the black civil rights movement that was gaining momentum and beginning to become a major force in politics, the gay community is now moving ahead and taking the shape of a people who also want our rights and the respect that a law abiding community deserves...and one day, slanderers of our community will no longer be on network television...they simply won't be tolerated anymore than slanderers of any other oppressed people...the Job Bobb Briggs and Andy Rooneys can be left to themselves in a rest home where they belong.

Rex Conner
San Francisco

LETTERS

Stop the Executioner

★ The State of California is preparing to commit the atrocity of murder by cyanide gas of Robert Alton Harris at San Quentin State Prison on April 3. What excuse for a society still allows such barbaric and immoral acts to continue with the sanction of its government and citizenry? The sanctity of human life, of every human life, must be guarded, preserved and protected if we are to continue with any dignity as a civilized nation. If we are incapable of learning the most basic of human rights, "Thou shalt not kill," we are doomed to live in a country disgraced and shamed.

The death penalty is a symptom of a culture in decline, a culture spiritually bankrupt. It is incomprehensible to me that one can sentence another to death and still sleep at night. Who among you will accept the sole responsibility for another's execution? Who but God is going to judge who will live and who will die? Anone who votes for or supports capital punishment is the very same person who pulls the switch that sends the deadly electrical current sizzling through the prisoner's veins. Anyone who nods his approval to the death penalty is the very same person on the firing line who levels his rifle, aims and shoots to kill, the very same person who drops the cyanide pellet into sulfuric acid, which fills the death chamber with lethal gas. There is no difference among them.

If the executioner were chosen from among the voting public by a civil process similar to jury selection, could California continue to be able to impose the death penalty? If the answer is yes, we have failed the most profound lesson God has given us.

Michael Dempsey McGuire
San Francisco

Can Someone Help?

★ With time passing so rapidly, please understand that I must try all avenues I can to get the help I am herein asking for. I do not wish to impose on anyone, but the story is so foul, I cannot, in conscience, let it die.

I must be brief herein as I am asking mostly that someone out there, willing to help me, may be willing to ask for the details.

A lady kennel owner in Grants Pass, Ore., had four of my dogs put to sleep because I owed a large board bill. Attempts to bargain in any way were not accepted or considered. She had 12 of my dogs. She had these four picked up by the county-operated shelter late Friday afternoon under my name. When I arrived at Grants Pass Saturday, the four had been put to sleep. My first question was, "Why were they not allowed the usual three to five days grace time for redemption or adoption?" The answer was and still is very vague. The other eight of my dogs were adopted out.

The lady refuses to advise me as to where or how.

To me, proof that I was able to stop the scheduled execution of the 8 verifies the illegal execution of the other four. The attorney that did help me needed \$500 front money, which needless to say I did not then, nor do I now have. I understand animal cases are rarely taken on a contingency basis, but I believe there is no harm in asking for help. Will someone help me? Please..?

A.I.G. Eichel
(707) 869-9738

Castro Area Assault

★ On Sunday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m., while walking on Diamond Street going toward 18th Street, I was attacked by four black teen-agers who came out of the Eureka playground. They were silent, wore nylon multi-colored jogging clothes, and several wore baseball caps.

I was punched in the eye from the side without warning, and after I stumbled into a corner near a house, two of the teen-agers continued to punch me in the face. I screamed repeatedly for help, and fortunately someone in the nearest house came to my aid (holding a baseball bat), which caused the four assailants to run away instantly.

The unusual thing was that during the entire attack, the teen-agers never uttered a word. One must, however, suspect that the assault was racially based (I am white) and/or anti-gay, because robbery did not seem to be the goal.

I am writing this letter to let everyone in the neighborhood know, and be on the lookout. If this happens again, maybe these teen-agers can be caught.

Kevin Havener
San Francisco

CMV Retinitis?

★ People who lack the resources to obtain treatment for their CMV retinitis or other eye diseases, are invited to contact the Lions Eye Foundation if they suffer from serious eye dysfunctions and meet the other criteria.

If your condition is treatable by an ophthalmologist, the Castro Lions could sponsor your free treatment at the Lions Eye Foundation of California and Nevada.

Please call Barbara Anger at 923-3950 or send your inquiries to Lions Eye Foundation, P.O. Box 7999, San Francisco, CA 94120.

Lion Bill Rowe,
President, Castro Lions Club
San Francisco

Marijuana Tip

★ I want to thank Michael C. Botkin for his continued excellent reportage on AIDS. Regardless of whether I always agree with his point of view, I find in his "HIV Watch" column and many other AIDS-related articles a commitment to providing the community accurate, well-thought-through, and cogently written information.

Michael understands that the direction of health care in this country is controlled by those who seek profit and power, too frequently at the expense of those who need care. The system is just as diseased as those who seek its services. Because his political savvy is infused with an understanding of our oppression as disenfranchised lesbians/gays, his articles speak directly to our needs for empowering information.

One comment concerning Michael's unofficial suggestion of a trial employing THC, the active component in marijuana, to stimulate appetite in PWAs. Those considering a variation of this trial by consuming marijuana in the privacy of their homes would be wise to drink it as a tea (brew it by adding the marijuana after the water has dropped 5 degrees below the boiling point) rather than risking damage to their lungs by smoking it.

I hope that Michael will continue to write for B.A.R. until long after the community has healed itself of AIDS and medical/drug company hegemony.

Jason Serinus
Editor, *Psycholmmunity & The Healing Process*

Shame on Chronicle

The following letters was sent to the San Francisco Chronicle:

★ I dislike the term "Unclear on the Concept," but I can think of no other way to describe the thinking of Mr. Paul C. Silva (letters, March 5). He shows no understanding whatever of constitutional rights. He does, however, reveal his paranoid homophobia.

I feel outrage that the *Chronicle* would print such a letter (and accompanying caricature). If Mr. Silva had cited a racial or ethnic group, instead of gays, would your newspaper have given his invective so much display?

George C. Bogue
San Francisco

Gay Games in the Netherlands

★ Where should Gay Games IV be held? I really don't care. I do care that the selection is done with tact and sensitivity.

Your guest opinion attacked the Hague and Mexico City. The Hague was called too small. Well, Mexico City is the largest city in the world if he wants big.

Let's dwell on the positive. You don't need to smear Mexico City to boost your own candidate, in this case New York City. Mexicans rightly take great pride in their ancient capital, a world-class metropolis, why offend them by saying Mexico City has nothing at all to offer. Everyone acknowledges Mexico to be one of the friendliest countries, that is something to offer. Does New York have that reputation? There are more gays in Mexico City than any other city on Earth.

Don't slam Mexico's homophobia. It was our own country, not Mexico, that quarantined AIDS sufferers coming to a conference here from the Netherlands.

Frankly, I think the Netherlands would be the ideal choice.

E. Alderete
San Francisco

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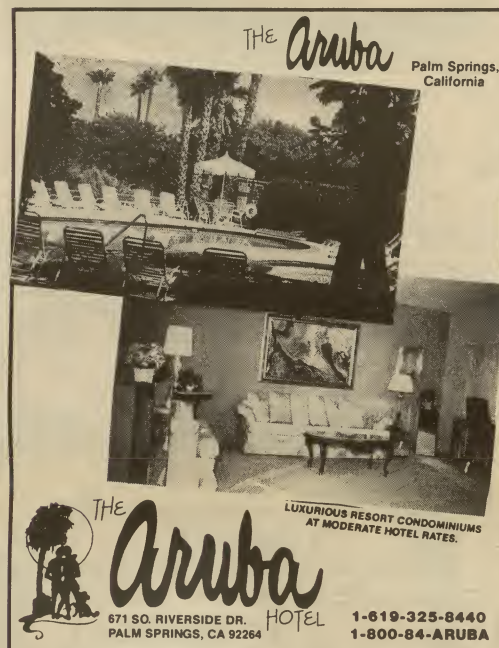
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
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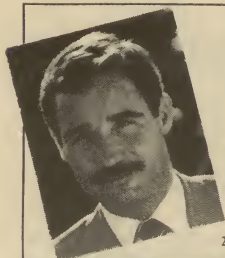


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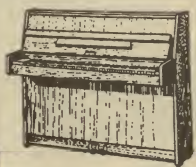
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LETTERS

AIDS Center Unneeded

★ This is in respect to the recent announcement of plans to build a structure at Market and Noe to house AIDS organizations with redundant and unduly fragment allocation of shrinking AIDS funds.

The structure is designed to house the Names Project. The quilt is an idea whose time has come . . . and gone. Processing grief is a legitimate, private, family matter; publicizing it, and commercializing on it, vitiates it. These cloth gravestones should be donated to the grieving families and have done with it. "Let the dead bury the dead," and let compassionate persons continue to donate funds to assist those living with AIDS and not to subsidize those who would live off AIDS.

Moreover, the announced "new" service comprising all assistance available to newly diagnosed PWAs/PWARCs is redundant. The AIDS Foundation already exists for this purpose. This respected organization published the *AIDS and ARC Resource Manual*, a definitive 104-page booklet of available services. Qualified counselors, social workers, even representatives of the city for GA intakes are available at their offices.

Finally, if we need additional services for PWAs/PWARCs when these same services are already adequately provided for by presently funded organizations, then it's time for perestroika in San Francisco AIDS service organizations.

**Jeremiah Corbin
PLWA (Person Living With AIDS)
San Francisco**

The Rest of the Story

★ Along with hundreds of other writers, I attended the recent Lesbian and Gay Writers Conference sponsored by *OutLook Magazine*. The panels and plenaries I attended were, for the most part, inspiring and thought-provoking. But, as is apt to occur in a setting where people gather and groove together for a weekend, reality frequently took an insular or even suspended course.

This harmonic convergence reached near polyanic proportions in the presentation by publishers. Repeatedly the audience was told that the publishing market is wide open, that the market is not saturated, etc. While this may have helped everyone feel good about each other, I don't think it is reflective of reality.

Before going any further, I need to make clear that my point is not to bash the gay/lesbian or feminist presses. I personally and we the movement owe a lot to these visionary and groundbreaking publishers. I salute their existence and perseverance. But I do feel that there were some realities of the writing-publishing world that were glossed over at the conference and it is these issues I want to address.

I came to the conference with a book proposal I hoped to sell. So did many others. I feel that my proposal should see the light of the publishing day. So did everyone else who came with a manuscript, as does anyone who's ever tried to get published. But getting published is not only a matter of having a good idea, a good presentation, a good manuscript. Success in the publishing field, no less than in other vocations, is greatly enhanced by contacts, by who you know in a position of power. Or who you know who knows someone who knows someone. And additionally, in the adaptation of a familiar adage, nothing succeeds like being published before. These are some of the undiscussed realities.

We need to understand what is really meant by declarations of an "open market." For example, when Sasha Alyson, publisher of Alyson Publications, said that the market for children's books about gay parents was wide open, I wondered how this translated into numbers. How many books per year does this mean? No doubt, Alyson will be inundated with manuscripts on this subject. How many, or what percentage, will get published in this wide, open market?

Of course, I would have been terribly depressed had the publishers painted a totally bleak landscape of the publishing prospects for gay and lesbian writers. But there must be some hues between gray and rose, that would have more reflected the reality of lesbian and gay writers trying to get published in North America.

**Helen Vozenilek
Berkeley**

Surrendering Gracefully

★ Don Heimforth, I'm willing to allow you to have the last word. And I'll admit "kritique" is cutesy English if you'll admit "kul-choor" is equally cutesy English.

That aside, the reason for my letter to B.A.R. was to point out (as had been done many times before by many others) that in the gay community we have many who do *nothing* and yet are quick to ask: "Why don't they . . . ?"

With your record of involvement going back more than 20 years, that doesn't apply to you. You've proven your point very well.

The next time I'm in what you call your "oh-so-wicked-town" and what those of us not fortunate enough to live there call Gay Mecca, I hope you'll allow me to take you to dinner.

**Phil Johnson
Dallas Gay/Lesbian
Historical Archives
Bumfuck, Texas**

No Asian Unity

★ Oh dear, goodness gracious, now we have a letter from Gay Asian Pacific Alliance requesting an apology from the editor of the Gaybook plus removal of his books from distribution **immediately!**

In a city that prides itself on its "questionable" anti-discrimination ordinances, GAPA is an organization that limits membership to "Asian Pacific" ethnic backgrounds, which in reality is a denial of membership to white and black men. They pride themselves as having special needs that only they themselves can understand and fulfill. They claim to be discriminated against by the white majority yet the very act they perform is justified as politically correct and acceptable.

Reality is that the Thais don't like the Vietnamese, who in turn don't like the Cambodians. Burma in its past history invaded Thailand. China thinks itself as the center of the universe, the Filipinos are the underdog of the area and the Japanese consider all other Asians as inferior and really don't like anybody. So why does this myth of Asian unity exist? Why of course here in San Francisco it exists so that one group can differentiate Asian AIDS as something unique and needing special care and in particular "government funding and grants."

Reality is also that the Japanese were invaders into Hawaii in 1941 and today are economic invaders. An obnoxious tourist though, doesn't need to be differentiated by race since they are so easily identified particularly when they are masses of Japanese tourists on weeklong vacation junkets.

Furthermore, out of the many Japanese who could have written and complained about being singled out, it is rather presumptuous that two Chinese-named men chose to carry forward this battle.

Sorry fellows, you are just going to have to live with your imaginary slights. I know it makes your life miserable but how else can you be happy?

**Andrew J. Betancourt
San Francisco**

Congressional Raises

★ Congress and the White House continue their scheme to rob the public purse. The salary grab to raise congressional, judicial and high public officials' pay passed in November 1989. It is wrong and must be stopped. The existing national problems affecting all of us: drugs, homeless, federal deficit, unemployment, poor education, pollution, ecological devastation, disrepaired bridges and highways, trade deficits, discrimination and prejudice, fraud, waste and abuse in government, misappropriation of public funds, obstruction of justice, are some issues that congress has failed to correctly address. Higher salaries will not solve these problems but add to them. We must demand excellence in our leadership, excellence not measured by monetary gain but by the level of social peace. The pay raise grab is a cronyistic display of greed.

I urge and ask each citizen to please write their representatives and demand that they repeal this pay grab.

The senate vote was 56 yeas and 43 nays. The house vote was 252 yeas and 174 nays. Senator Alan Cranston voted for the raise and Senator Pete Wilson against it. House representatives Barbara Boxer and Nancy Pelosi voted for the raise.

Ask those who voted for the raise to justify their vote in writing. That reply should provide some momentum.

**Carl A. Ricceri
Robert C. Hood
San Francisco**

GOP Rejects 11th Commandment

by Wayne Friday

Whatever happened to California Republicans' once self-imposed "11th Commandment?" ("Thou shalt not speak ill of fellow Republicans"). The state GOP had their state convention this past weekend in Santa Clara and the only two contested statewide races drew sparks rarely seen among Republicans.

Conservative state treasurer candidate **Angela "Bay" Buchanan** (no, I haven't the slightest idea what the hell "Bay" stands for), attacked opponent incumbent state **Treasurer Tom Hayes**.

A candidate for lieutenant governor, state **Sen. Marian Bergeson** trashed state **Sen. John Seymour**, another lieutenant governor candidate; attorney-general candidate **Dan Lundgren** managed to disagree with the GOP gubernatorial candidate, **Pete Wilson**, on just about every imaginable issue—and we thought the state Democrats were having troubles!

The most memorable quote of the weekend GOP confab? It's got to be state **Sen. Marian Bergeson**, a candidate for lieutenant governor, reaffirming her opposition to abortion, an issue that many Republicans now see as harmful to that party's longtime position of opposing abortion.

Bergeson, when asked if she was perhaps re-thinking her strident pro-life stance on this issue, replied: "read my lipstick, I will not switch my position" (read my lipstick???)

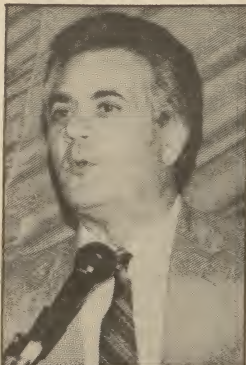
Incidentally, one-time San Franciscan political consultant **Ron Smith** is managing Bergeson's campaign; yes that Ron Smith (the one that grabbed the jaws of victory for **Jack Molinari** in the last mayoral campaign.)

Gay Cut Out

The Pomona City Council, which a few weeks ago had proclaimed the last week in June as Gay and Human Rights Week, last week reversed itself after receiving complaints from local conservatives and churches and took the "gay" out of Human Rights Week (Pomona???)

Reagan Donation

What's this? Ronald Reagan, who did practically nothing during eight years in the White House to combat the AIDS



Barney Frank. (Photo: Rink)

epidemic, recently filmed a public service announcement for the Pediatric AIDS Foundation, and last week donated his usual \$50,000 speaking fee, paid for an appearance at a recent corporate meeting, to the same AIDS group.

Frank Unscathed

My Washington sources tell me that they expect **U.S. Rep. Barney Frank** to go practically unscathed. The House Ethics Panel investigating his conduct involving admitted male prostitute Steve Gobie, reportedly believe little of what Gobie had told them regarding the affair, and the worst that Frank will get is probably a mild reproof from the committee.

Frank has admitted he paid Gobie for sex in 1985 and then hired Gobie as an aide, using personal funds.

FDA First

when the Food and Drug Administration granted approval last week to the San Francisco-based group Project Inform for resumption of trials for the experimental AIDS drug Compound Q, it marked the first time the FDA had given complete control over a clinical trial to a community group rather than a medical research group.

Here Comes Jimmy

Is the Bay Area ready for **Jimmy Swaggart**?—the fiery Pentecostal preacher, who is almost as well known for his penchant for Skid Row hookers and kinky sex practices as he is for saving souls, brings his "fire and brimstone" crusade to the Event Center at San Jose State University June 1-3.

Swaggart, who never really admitted his "addiction to pornography" nor his visits to Louisiana whorehouses, lost his multimillion dollar televangelist empire in 1988 after making a memorable, albeit comical, tearful confession of unspecified "sin" against his wife and followers of God.

That's right, folks—Jimmy Swaggart, the ultimate religious hypocrite comes to San Jose June 1 through 3; Showtime!...

Moving On Up

Every candidate should have this problem: **Dianne Feinstein's** impressive runaway in the polls (she now leads **John Van de Kamp** by double-digits) has generated so many queries from volunteers and potential donors that the southern California campaign is being forced to move from its cramped headquarters on Santa Monica Boulevard to a more spacious office in the Mid-Wilshire area.

"All of a sudden, Dianne is like the Miata, there is enormous interest," said one Democratic official, referring to a new sports car (the Miata) that is so popular, there are long waiting lists.

Migden Fundraiser

Friends of Carole Migden, an early favorite in the race for the Board of Supervisors, will hold a fundraiser for their candidate on Monday, March 19 at the Zuni Cafe, 1658 Market, 5:30-7:30 (\$50 donation asked; wine and hors d'oeuvres; 668-3325 for info).

District Attorney Arlo Smith, Sheriff Mike Hennessey, state Sens. Milton Marks and Quentin Kopp, and Supervisors Bill Maher and Richard Hongisto drew appreciative applause from the sparse St. Patrick's Day parade crowd last Sunday.

Saint Liz

Elizabeth Taylor, as near to a saint as Hollywood will ever see, was back in Washington last week pleading and cajoling politicians for more AIDS research money. Meanwhile, **Sen. Ted Kennedy** (D-Mass), and **Sen. Orrin Hatch** (Utah), once an anti-gay conservative, introduced a bill that would provide \$600 million in emergen-

(Continued on page 30)

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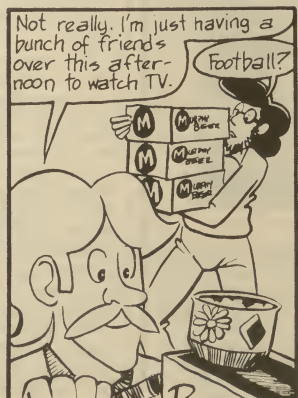
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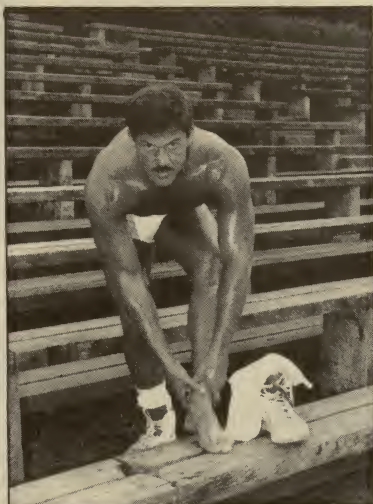
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MIKE HIPPLER

Would You Believe 'The Right One'?

by Mike Hippler

I was beginning to get annoyed. I had repeatedly thrown out mailings from *The Right One*, a "resource for busy professionals who would like to meet people," but still they kept coming. "This could be the beginning of an exciting adventure!" I read. "A great relationship can add so much to your life!"

Perhaps so, I thought, but was a dating service featuring four separate illustrations of heterosexuals in its brochure likely to be of much use to a homosexual who hadn't asked a woman on an official date since his high school senior prom 20 years ago? I doubted it.

Nevertheless, I decided to respond to *The Right One's* invitation anyway. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. Besides, perhaps a woman was what I needed after all.

My boyfriend didn't think much of the idea, but I tried not to let that influence me. In fact, it was partly his fault that I responded to *The Right One's* brochure.

When he suggested several months ago that we needed to "redefine" the terms of our relationship, I don't think *The Right One* was what he had in mind. But if he had had a mind, he would never have questioned the legitimacy of our relationship in the first place.

Anyway, I answered *The Right One's* questionnaire. First, I gave as the reason for my interest that there is not enough time to meet people, nor do I meet enough people to whom I am attracted. My goal, I added, was "to form a sincere relationship." (None of these explanations were original. I merely checked the boxes provided.)

Then I described *The Right One* for me—a non-smoking college graduate 30 to 40 years old, interested in theater, film, music and the arts. (There was no box for moonlit walks on the beach.) Preferably, *The Right One* would have no children, but her occupation, religion and marital status would not matter.

As soon as I returned the questionnaire, *The Right One*—the organization, not the woman—called and proposed an interview at the group's Mill Valley headquarters. I readily agreed, and, after introducing myself to a coiffed and manicured receptionist a few days later, I sat down to watch an orientation film in one of *The Right One's* five video booths.

"In today's hectic world," I learned, "although our careers are progressing, we can't really say the same for our personal lives." Complicating matters is the "real issue" of AIDS, which, despite its unfortunate effects on the dating scene, is at least "bringing the focus back to traditional values, to monogamous relationships."

No wonder, then, that "the time is now for relationships," and who better than *The Right One* to arrange them?

Of course, "not everyone who comes in our door" is acceptable, noted the vice president of the organization in a

taped television interview. "We're selective," she said. "We take them only if we like them and they like us."

If prospective clients are "happy with their lives, working a lot," and sincerely interested in "wanting a relationship," then "we package and present them."

After the film's conclusion, a salesperson named Eva explained exactly how the dating service works. Once a client has joined *The Right One*, a professional photographer takes a series of pictures. These and a brief profile describing the client's interests, activities and concerns are placed in a binder along with the pictures and profiles of other clients. Clients may also choose to make a brief video describing themselves, but this is not required.

Whenever the client chooses, he or she may consult these binders, request up to five videos at a time and submit the names of individuals he or she would like to meet. A staff member transmits that request to the chosen object of affection, who then investigates his or her suitor and decides whether to respond.

Because it works both ways, Eva noted, clients become both the pursuer and the pursued. Sort of like Valentine's Day, I thought. The drawback is that some people inevitably get stuck with no valentines at all—but certainly not "Jackie" the photogenic brunette whose picture Eva just happened to pull out at random from one of the four volumes of names beginning with J. The woman was a knockout. If they all looked like that...

But before I could find out, I had to sign up, of course. This was easy to do. All I had to do was fork over \$2,250 for a lifetime membership, which could guarantee me "continuous and unlimited use of *The Right One Centers* until mar-

ried," or just \$1,450 for an introductory membership, which would guarantee me the same privileges for "one full year."

If this seemed a bit steep, I was encouraged to consider the additional services the club provides, including free counseling, access to discount travel packages and a wide range of social functions, such as a tennis and golf singles weekend in Palm Desert for only \$415 double occupancy.

As for the inducement to join, Eva explained that the club has 2,000 members, 55 percent of whom are women; each month, 100 new members join. Furthermore, 40 percent of the club's members are in my age group, 70 percent of whom are women. So my chances of hooking up with an attractive and intelligent babe destined to fulfill my every longing were practically guaranteed, I concluded.

Still, all that money! So Eva began to bargain. For me, she was willing to offer a half-year membership for \$750, something she was allowed to do only for "friends." (But I make an exception when I see someone we need," she said.) On top of that, she threw in a 15 percent discount, which she was allowed to do only on "special occasions." (Like what? My birthday?) This brought the price down to \$600 (give or take a few bucks).

Such a deal! A hundred bucks a month, the same amount I pay for my herpes medicine! I was tempted, I admit, but even though the offer was good "for today only," I told Eva I had to have time to think about it. I thought for about five seconds. On one hand, \$600 seemed a small amount to pay to avoid the everlasting search for love in the workplace, the gym, the bars and the bushes.

(Continued on page 30)

Frisch



From Media to You

by Dave Ford

It would just seem good sport to watch the mainstream media ritually writhe over the "gay question"—if the stakes weren't so high.

While members of our community continue to die, most American media outlets posture and postulate, equivocate and obfuscate. Well-meaning though they sometimes are, they never quite get it right.

★ ★ ★

The Andy Rooney debacle ended recently when GLAAD accepted the hack commentator's loopy March 4 on-air apology.

The lasting lessons were simple and obvious.

One: gays are the last bashable minority. CBS officially handed Rooney a three-month suspension for racist comments he allegedly made to *The Advocate*, not for the equally damaging homophobic remarks he offered on his year end TV wrap up in December. The media all but ignored the gay slur.

Two: the dollar reigns almighty. Having stood morally tough for weeks, CBS instantly relented when ABC's *America's Funniest Home Videos* trounced the Rooney-less *60 Minutes* in the Feb. 25 ratings.

Three: a cretin like Rooney is only educable when dollars are involved.

★ ★ ★

Access to City AIDS Records Requested

Under the provisions of the California Public Records Act of 1968, the *Bay Area Reporter* has requested access to San Francisco Department of Public Health records regarding AIDS prevention services maintained by the AIDS Activity Office.

The provisions of the CPRA clearly state that "public records are open to inspection at all times during the office hours of a state or local agency and every citizen has a right to inspect any public record."

However, when a reporter for the *Bay Area Reporter* appeared at the AIDS office last week and politely requested to review the AIDS Office documents evaluating all community-based agencies providing AIDS prevention services, including a review of budget information and client demographics, he was asked to write a letter requesting such information.

The AIDS Office was given a letter requesting such records under the provisions of the California Public Records Act.

The series on AIDS funding in San Francisco will resume when the AIDS Office releases the requested information. ▼

It's small consolation that as a result of the flap, the gay agenda topped the national news for a short spell.

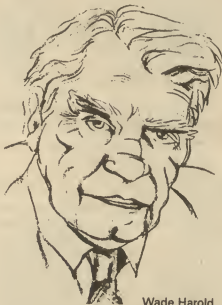
The gay agenda tops the March 12 *Newsweek*, too. Its "The Future of Gay America" cover presents a mostly balanced look at activism, AIDS, gay political clout, homophobia and even gay marriage and gay parenting.

The story, which includes sidebars on the pro-sex movement and lesbian parents, suffers only minor problems. Not surprisingly, the segment on assimilation vs. separatism refers to *After the Ball: How America Will Conquer Its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the '90s*, Marshall Kirk's and Hunter Madsen's tired apologist tome.

Happily, reporter Eloise Salholz notes that "critics have called [the authors] self-hating gays who have sold out their people to get along with society at large."

More disturbingly, the table of contents blurb and the article's subhead asks, "...How far will the limits of tolerance extend?" Whose tolerance? Notes Salholz near the end of the piece, "As the decade progresses, gays will continue testing the limits of the country's tolerance."

That assertion marginalizes gays; it suggests we're not part of "the country." The word "tolerance" connotes permission granted; gays are to be "tolerated" by those exercising



Wade Harold

majority privilege—i.e., straight, white people.

★ ★ ★

Nowhere is this clearer than in staff writer Jonathan Alter's tortured accompanying essay.

Alter grandly decides racism and homophobia aren't the same thing. Noting that "identity and behavior are not synonymous," he adds that "a bigot hates blacks for what they are; a reasonable person can justifiably object to some things homosexuals do." (His italics.)

"Discrimination against homosexuals is not the same as personal distaste of homosexuality," he writes (again, his italics). After decrying anti-gay prejudice, he asks, "But does that mean that anyone who considers the homosexual sex act sinful or repulsive is the equivalent of a racist?" His answer: "No." He later adds that "...there are times when squeamishness is understandable. In coming of age, many gays have made a point of flaunting their sexuality. ..."

To justify homophobia as "reasonable" fear of gay sex is wank. The "reasonable person" suffering the fear of, distaste for—or lack of imagination to perceive—homosex generally proves most dangerous: his or her psycho-emotional bigotry begets violence. The result: another gay bashing.

Pieces like Alter's perpetuate the myth that "the majority of Americans" are privileged to dictate how gays will be "allowed" to live. The knee-jerk liberalism—"We'll tolerate them, but we don't have to know what they do in bed"—covers a galling lack of action on the AIDS and civil rights fronts.

Worse, straight magazines "tolerantly" present us as militant and empowered. But while they debate whether it's OK to like (safe) cocksucking, butt-fucking and clitlicking, our community continues to be decimated by a disease about which the straight government does little.

Who appointed them God?

Time's March 5 cover story on gossip oddly neglects gays altogether. The piece harumphs tritely about the rise of gossip, the lack of ethics and accuracy in the columns, the proliferation of flacks. It concludes with predictable moralizing about "Americans... encouraged to live in daydreams about the lifestyles of the rich and famous, to emphasize the material over the spiritual."

All very well and good. But the sidebar on *New York Post*

gossip maven Liz Smith mentions not one word about the ongoing confrontation between her and *Outweek* gossip-watch columnist Michaelangelo Signorile. For months Signorile has been after Smith, an "alleged" lesbian, to come out of the closet. With questionable delicacy, *Time* overlooks Smith's peccadillos. Is the mag scared of sloshing around in the very sewer about which it's reporting?

Hardly. Their *Spy*-like table of contents pic shows megagent Swiftly Lazar dishing with *Post* gossip columnist Suzy: Lazar looks eyeless; Suzy looks drugged. And the frothy writing's annoyingly alliterative. Smith is "blond and bedizened and bravely unbowed"; the *Post's* Cindy Adams is "a darker and doughtier and even more decked-out doyen of dirt."

No, *Time's* trying to have it both ways—playing cute and reporting "straight"—while cleverly reneging on any real sense of journalistic duty.

Indeed, in noting that "contemporary society's heightened candor about sex has tended to make possible publication of items that were once unthinkable, like... homosexual affairs," *Time* implies that "homosexual affairs" are scandalous. Hmm—to me, they're simply hot.

What's scandalous is a country—and its media—that perpetually marginalizes gays, and that makes a sexy, loving act an aberration.

Hey: that's sick. ▼

Vigil

(Continued from page 3)

support the group's presence at the site, because the city wouldn't allow the homeless people living in the plaza or in Civic Center Park to set up tents.

Nelder said the group should move inside—and that there were too many questions about the city's liability. She also said that other groups were now providing services to street people that the ARC/AIDS Vigil is known for. "I just don't think this is the way to go," Nelder said.

According to Supervisor Harry Britt, the permit is revocable by the Board at any time. The permit will end any harassment of the Vigil by giving the Board's permission to the group, Britt said.

"What stands out is the group continues to be a protest against the federal government's refusal to deal with the AIDS epidemic," he said.

"There's no question that this is a heroic effort that has to be supported and protected," Supervisor Richard Hongisto said.

Both Hongisto and Britt acknowledged the efforts of the late John Belskus in the vigil's witness against federal indifference to AIDS. ▼

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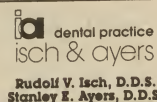
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Polk Step-Up Defended; Bar Decoy Plot Criticized

by Allen White

Charges of harassment and entrapment are on the increase as police step up their presence on Polk Street.

City Attorney Louise Renne has been asked to investigate potential liability against the city concerning a "decoy program" in which police use teen-agers to entrap bartenders and sales clerks for serving alcohol to minors.

T.J. Anthony, aide to Supervisor Richard Hongisto, said Monday, "We have asked the city attorney to look into the potential fiscal implication against the city by police officials using young people as a tool of law enforcement. We think the implications are quite severe."

Concerning the increased police presence in the Polk area, Lea Militello, the Police Department's liaison to the lesbian/gay community, said, "There have been several complaints by the merchants in this area, and several sorts of concerns by the residents of increased amount of drug activity



T.J. Anthony

and violence in the area. The only way that we know to prevent such things from happening is to put police up there. Let the community know the police are up there.

"You are going to see more beat patrol up there," she said. "Polk Street is going to see more attention on the beat because it is definitely needed."

Militello said that on March 1, 30 establishments were targeted on Polk Street from Market to Chestnut streets, including eight liquor stores, seven grocery stores, seven gay bars, four straight bars, two fast-food restaurants, one regular restaurant and a drug store. As a result, five citations were issued.

If a business or sales clerk is found guilty of selling alcohol to minors, the fines can total several thousand dollars.

"Police have started to see a problem with liquor being served to minors," Militello said. "They hit these establishments to let them know they cannot serve liquor to minors driving under the influence of liquor and we are very concerned."

She said the police had not singled out gay establishments.

Militello also said a similar effort was made on Feb. 16 in the Haight-Fillmore area. Eight grocery stores, two fast-

(Continued on page 27)



The Names Project Quilt on display at Moscone Center.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

'Common Threads' Up For Academy Award

by Allen White

There is nothing quite like winning an Academy Award, and on March 26 the winner in the Best Documentary category should be *Common Threads*, the story of the Names Project quilt.

Rob Epstein, who won his first Oscar for *The Times Of Harvey Milk*, is hoping for a second for his role in the production and direction of *Common Threads*.

Financed primarily by Home Box Office, which also aired the production, the documentary uses the Names Project quilt as a device to chronicle the AIDS epidemic. The film is also a chilling indictment of Ronald Reagan and his administration.

The film is narrated by Dustin Hoffman, with a musical score by Bobby McFerrin.

Mitch Block, president of Direct Cinema, who from Los Angeles supervises the theatrical release of the film, said, "We think it is extraordinary

that a sensitive, political moving work that honors those who have been involved in this tragedy and at the same time trashes our government, particularly Reagan for ignoring it, would be nominated for an Academy Award. It is a very powerful movie."

Yet Block and other observers know the film is competing against a strong list of nominees. Also nominated in the category are *For All Mankind*, a film about the Apollo space program; *Super Chief*, about the life and times of Chief Justice Earl Warren; *Adam Clayton Powell*, which focuses on the life of the black congressman, and *Crack, U.S.A.*, which looks at children who may become addicted to crack cocaine.

Epstein said *For All Mankind* was the front-runner. Block sees *Super Chief*, narrated by former Academy President Gregory Peck as the favorite.

"If the film won, it would be a statement in itself," Epstein said. "It would be such a wonderful thing for a film about AIDS to get that kind of industry acclaim. Just the fact that it got nominated says something, and I'm very proud."

Block said he was trying to get the film booked into a San Francisco theatre.

"What we really want to do is put it in a theatre with 150 or 200 seats so it would play for a number of weeks," he said.

Common Threads is produced by Epstein, Jeffrey Friedman and Bill Couturie and is co-directed by Epstein and Friedman. All plan to be present during the awards ceremony. Also in the audience will be Names Project founder Cleve Jones and Executive Director David Lemos.

The quilt will be on display at Fort Mason from June 21-24 to coincide with the International AIDS Conference and the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week activities.

Panels from the quilt will also be displayed at local department stores, including Gumps and Saks, and in all San Francisco International Airport Terminals. ▼

Republican Enters Race for Assessor

by Wayne Friday

Calling himself a "fiscal conservative," Ronald Kershaw, a prominent gay Republican activist, entered the race for city assessor Friday, and his candidacy, along with that of a fourth candidate, Paul Schwenger, could change the local political scene significantly.

Kershaw, president of the predominantly gay Log Cabin Club, is a real estate portfolio manager for Coast Savings and Loan. His candidacy is expected to be heavily supported by local Republicans as well as political moderates and conservatives who might have been expected to support Supervisor Wendy Nelder, known to have been counting on Republicans in her contest for the \$100,000-a-year job against fellow Supervisor Richard Hongisto.

The fact that there are now four candidates in the race for assessor reduces the chance of any candidate winning the necessary majority of the votes in the June 5 election, thereby forcing a run-off for the post in the November general election.

Hongisto, thought to be the early favorite to win the assessor's position, told the *Bay Area Reporter* this week that he "welcomes" the candidacy of both Kershaw and Schwenger. Hongisto said a run-off in November, when a governor and other high-

profile offices will be chosen, will bring out more "liberal" voters than would the June 5 primary.

Hongisto believes that will work in his favor, over a more conservative Nelder, should the two supervisors make it to a run-off.

Kershaw, long active in Republican politics, is serving his second term as president of the Log Cabin Club. He is a personable figure, who, in a non-partisan election such as the assessor's race, is expected to draw many gay and lesbian votes, regardless of their party affiliation in a heavily Democratic city.

Schwenger, thought to be the candidate of outgoing Assessor Sam Duca, is the assistant chief appraiser in the assessor's office, but is a total political unknown.

If Hongisto and Nelder made it into a runoff against each other, both would be forced to give up their seats on the Board of Supervisors, opening up two seats to be filled in November.

San Francisco County Democratic Party Chairwoman Carole Migden and attorney activist Roberta Achtenberg have filed as candidates for the Board of Supervisors in November and the possibility of two vacancies on that board raises the real possibility that two lesbians could win elec-



Ronald Kershaw

tion to the city's legislative body, a thought that brings real political excitement to the city's gay and lesbian community.

Kershaw told the *Bay Area Reporter* that while he doesn't realistically expect to win the assessor's job in June, "I do expect to be in the contest in November, and I look forward to a tough political contest with my runoff opponent, whoever it may be."

Kershaw makes an attractive candidate, one that his opponents should not take too lightly.

Van de Kamp Cuts Initiative Staff

by Allen White

Staffers at the Van de Kamp for Governor initiative campaign office lost their jobs last week in a sign that the attorney general's campaign may be regrouping with a stronger emphasis on television.

In the the gay community this could mean that a previous strong presence in the Castro may be grinding down.

The dismissals happened as rumors were circulating, especially in the Sacramento area, that an initiative on ethics would be dropped. Duane Peterson, spokesperson for the Van de Kamp campaign, strongly denies any plans to drop any of the initiatives.

The rumors surfaced as Van de Kamp has watched almost all of his support in the Legislature disappear. The leadership in the California State Senate and the State Assembly have formed a fairly solid front in support of former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

"The three initiatives are going to get on the ballot," Peterson said. "Mr. Van de Kamp will not respond to that pressure (in Sacramento) by dropping the initiative."

In addition to an initiative on

ethics, there is also one on the environment and one that would fight crime.

Peterson said the initiative campaign had been changing strategy from the start, noting that in some parts of the state workers will emphasize different initiatives.

"We have shifted strategy in what they carry," he said. "Whether they carry two or three." For example, he said, "If they carry two, which ones do they carry?"

Peterson strongly emphasized that the importance of the initiatives can be directly tied to their popularity.

"Preliminary public polling," he said, "shows there is overwhelming support for those initiatives. When you talk to the people out there in the world, they are overwhelmingly in favor of these changes."

He cited a *Los Angeles Times* poll that asked people if they supported the concept of the initiatives. Peterson said more than 70 percent were in favor of the ethics initiative concept.

To keep the initiative cam-

(Continued on page 22)

Yellow Pages to Offer Gay Group Category

by Cindy Bologna

After various attempts on the part of Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco, upcoming editions of the Pacific Bell Yellow Pages servicing Northern California and Nevada will contain a new category listing entitled "Gay & Lesbian Organizations."

For the first time ever in California, gay and lesbian non-profit groups will be able to achieve increased visibility by listing their organizations together under the new heading. Listings are now lumped together under "Social Services Organizations."

Spokesperson for GLAAD/San Francisco Byron Potts, suggested that Pacific Bell is being less than helpful in notifying gay and lesbian groups about the new heading.

Pacific Bell has reportedly stated it will be passive in the transition from one heading to another. Calls to PacBell went unanswered.

"In order for a group to be placed under the Gay & Lesbian Organization heading, it must request that placement of Pacific Bell," Potts said. "The phone company is not actively informing organizations of the new heading."

Another problem seems to be that no uniform deadline date exists for each of the different directories in Northern California and Nevada.

So while organizations wishing to be listed in San Francisco's directory have un-

til June, those wanting to be listed in San Rafael may have already missed the deadline.

It's a very confusing system," Potts said.

Based on similar achievements by GLAAD/New York, GLAAD/San Francisco adamantly convinced Pacific Bell of the necessity of a gay and lesbian organizations heading.


"Young people questioning their sexuality need to be able to pick up a phone book and easily find groups they can identify with," Potts said. "There's no reason why we should have to guess at which organizations are gay and lesbian and which are not."

Groups that already have a business line are entitled to one free listing in the Yellow Pages. If already listed under Social Services Organizations, a change to the gay and lesbian heading can be made for no charge.

A group can also be listed in more than one city's directory, but has to pay for the additional listings.

GLAAD has sent out notifications and information to gay and lesbian groups throughout Northern California and Nevada, detailing the steps needed to be taken. A group must be non-profit to qualify for placement.

For more information in Northern California, call 1-800-228-7102. In Nevada call 1-800-852-7624.

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Miss Terri

(Continued from page 1)

nity. But the major source of controversy is the sex-change operation that, 15 years ago, created a Terri where there had once been a Terrence. Not since Sally Stanford has a Northern California politician been this colorful or controversial.

The Race

"I'm a go-getter," Pohrman explains. "I want to ask the city administrator where the school money goes. We have no art or P.E. teacher at the local high school. There's big money coming into this town and I'm not sure it's being used appropriately. I want public accountability."

"I think if somebody was smart enough, which I am, they could rake these people over the coals. The town administration is doing things that are illegal. This is a small town that's been run by the same people for years."

A wholesale jewelry saleswoman, Pohrman is one of three mayoral candidates in the election to be decided on April 10. If she wins her first two-year term of office, she will receive a monthly salary of \$180, which she plans to donate to a different charity each month. She will also have one of five votes on the Yountville City Council.

A native of Portland, Ore., Pohrman moved to Yountville two years ago. She decided to enter the 1990 mayoral race in this town of 3,000 at the suggestion of friends and neighbors, but her high-visibility campaign has shocked some residents. And her



Miss Terri loves jewelry.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

opponents in the race criticize Pohrman for courting votes at the Veteran's Home, whose residents comprise roughly half of Yountville's population.

"Yountville needs those vets. Without them they could never have incorporated as a city. The only time most people are interested in them is when there's a political issue. But I've

been up there having breakfast with those guys and throwing parties for them since I moved here. I have a big heart and I love people. I entertain them—put a smile on their faces and make them happy. They're not interested in what sex I am."

Pohrman is a proponent of slow growth, and when the

city's five-year development plan is rewritten next July, she would like no major changes.

"I'd like the people to give me a chance. If they don't make the right decisions, we'll have two more years of nothing going on here. I want people to get involved, to take a stand on issues. I'm going to put Yountville on the map, just like I said I was. It's already happened. This town depends on tourism, and these business people are extremely happy right now."

In terms of income-generated notoriety, Pohrman may prove to be the proverbial goose who lays her golden eggs on the steps of City Hall. She has already appeared on *People Are Talking*, *Larry King Live*, *A Current Affair*, CNN's *Sonya Live*, and she recently received a call from *The Phil Donahue Show*.

In addition to local media, *The National Enquirer* and *The Globe* have run feature stories on candidate Pohrman and a nearby winery will soon offer a special vintage with Pohrman's picture on the label.

But beneath the swirl of campaign publicity, lies a personal story more sensational than any of the political issues at hand.

Time For a Change

Terri Pohrman started plotting her sex change when she was in third grade and, although it was a perfectly natural and normal transition for her, she admits it caused anxious moments for her parents.

"The first six months were rough for them. They went to psychiatrists who told them to



The contemplative Miss Terri.

look at their own lives. They knew I was different for a long time. It was no new thing that I wanted to wear high-heeled shoes, they bought them for me. I had little doll houses and all that miniature stuff as a child.

"I always wanted to leave Portland. It was too small. I wanted to make money and I wanted to live some place where it wasn't raining all the time. Christ, I grew up in that damned rain where people ran around depressed all the time. I couldn't stand it.

"When I was 17, I started working for a traveling show. It was like a Gray Line Tour, a drag review called 'Darcelle 15 Presents.' We played places like Reno, Las Vegas and San Jose. For once, I was part of a family instead of a child who was verbally abused by everyone. The show gave me great exposure to life. It paid practically nothing, but I needed the health insurance for my

Stoli. For the purist.



Miss Terri.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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operation. During those five years, I did my research and, in San Francisco, I found the right surgeon.

"I needed a letter from a doctor and went to a psychiatrist who said, 'Terry, you're going to be a streetwalker and a hooker. It's going to take a lot of counseling, about \$5,000 worth, before I can write you a letter.' The guy was just trying to get the money.

"I said, 'Listen here, I'm going to prove you wrong. I think you're an asshole. You don't know what you're doing.' I walked out and never went back. I found a doctor who told me how much it would cost and that my Blue Cross would cover it. Then I went to my family physician who knew me all my life and he wrote the letter for me. I never had any counseling. I got all my hormones on the black market and prescribed my own dosage. Now, of course, I have

a gynecologist who prescribes them for me."

Pohrman readily acknowledges that her vision of life after surgery was not as realistic as it could have been. In many respects, it was the same dream shared by most little girls who grow up in Portland.

"We all have visions of marriage—a little house in the country. It's only a dream. I had a fabulous four-year marriage that ended in divorce. When it was over I was working as a travel agent and I called this fellow who had given me his card. He was married and I became his mistress for two years. He sent me to Europe and I bought antique furniture for his business.

"When he divorced, he wanted me to marry him and move to Maui. But I don't like Hawaii—it's Chicago with palm trees. And the truth is, he loved me but I didn't love him. I loved his money. When the relationship ended, I went into the jewelry business."

If elected mayor of Yountville, Pohrman plans to be an active administrator and run for re-election when her two-year term expires. Beyond that, there are many other things she hopes to accomplish on a personal and professional level.

"In the next couple of years I'll probably adopt a child. There are many Hispanic children available in Mexico. That's what I want. I love those kids and those people. They are my friends.

"And I'd like to write a book about my life, but not one that's so serious. I'm sick of reading 'poor me' books. Forget 'poor me.' You always have the option to make some-



Baby-kissing is always good for a few votes.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

thing of your life. I'm sick of transsexuals who sit around complaining. I'm on welfare and I'll never get the money for my surgery. I've worked hard. This is not an easy life for anybody."

Easy or not, Terri Pohrman could never be accused of wallowing in self-pity. She has her jewelry business, a political future, her friends, and a social life outside of Yountville.

"I choose not to date local men. Small town, small talk. I don't need that. And I won't date anyone who is curious what it might be like to make love to a transsexual. I'm nobody's freak show. I'm a woman, a human being. But I think I've maintained a sense of humor about life."

As the afternoon sun descends below the mountains, a steady stream of cars and motorcycles pass by the front porch. Passengers gawk at the statuesque blond, but most do not stop to pay their respects personally. Someone remarks, "If lookin' were votin', you'd be mayor already."

An assistant sells T-shirts, bumper stickers and campaign buttons on the lawn while a girlfriend arrives and joins Pohrman on the front porch. She hands over a check for a \$200 campaign contribution and, in return, receives a hug and a kiss from the candidate. The woman teases her about the heavy silver earrings that dangle from Pohrman's lobes and brush against her shoulders.

"They aren't pierced, are they?"

"Oh, no," Pohrman laughs. "If they were pierced, they'd yank my hole out of position. I'd have to put alum on them."

Unflappable in the face of controversy, Pohrman shoots one-liners while her visitors seem awestruck at the prospect of this rhinestone-encrusted former showgirl becoming Yountville's next mayor. With two opponents splitting the anti-Miss Terri votes, victory is a strong possibility. But when confronted with her official title as "The Honorable Mayor Terri Pohrman," the candidate demurs.

"I'd rather be Miss Mayor. That sounds better to me."



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House Members Blast Military Over Flap With Gay Recruit

by Cliff O'Neill

A group of 2 House members, including U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), sent a letter March 7 to a ROTC commander insisting that the military abandon its attempt to recover a college scholarship from a gay recruit.

Led by openly gay U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.), the letter protests the Reserve Officer Training Corps' attempts to recover a \$25,000 scholarship awarded to James Holobaugh, a highly commended ROTC recruit who last year disclosed his homosexuality to his commanding officer.

The Army was set to award Holobaugh his commission when he disclosed his homosexuality last May. After a preliminary hearing, last December the Army decided to ask Holobaugh to return the scholarship.

Holobaugh, who is set to graduate from Washington University in St. Louis this spring, has refused to return the scholarship and is suing the ROTC for his commission.

Washington University has vocally come out in support of the gay recruit opposing the military's anti-gay policies.

"We believe the Army has cheated itself out of the future services of a qualified officer."

Standing military policy contends that homosexuality is "incompatible with military service." Recently, the Supreme Court refused to hear two court challenges of the policy.

"We believe that to compel him to pay would be fun-

damentally unfair; it would also reflect an appalling mean-spiritedness, which has no place in the ROTC," read the letter sent to the commander of the Second Division of the U.S. Army ROTC Cadet Command.

The Army has suggested that this may be the first case of its kind as it usually does not ask recruits to return scholarships unless they have evidence of deceit. That would mean that the Army would have to prove that Holobaugh intentionally kept his homosexuality secret in order to receive his scholarship and only revealed it when he did in order to avoid having to serve.

Holobaugh has contended that he dated women while in college and only revealed he was gay when he realized it himself. Besides, he adds, he does want to serve.

To complicate matters, an officer investigating the case has concluded that "there was no willful evasion that can be proven" on Holobaugh's part.



James Holobaugh

"It is to Mr. Holobaugh's credit that he conducted himself in an open and forthright manner, directly informing his commanding officer as soon as he realized he was gay," the members' letter added. "We believe the Army has cheated itself out of the future services of a qualified officer." ▼

Polk

(Continued from page 14)

food restaurants, two straight bars, one drug store and one liquor store were hit, resulting in six citations.

Hongisto's office issued a statement Monday strongly opposing the entrapment tactics.

"Our position is clear and straightforward," Anthony said. "It is inappropriate to use young people as tools for law enforcement. There is absolutely no purpose to entrapment. The police have the ability to go into bars from time to time to see who is in there and see if there are people who are under age. They have been doing that for generations now and there is no reason to believe that can't work. It is a misuse of resources and it is a misuse of young people. It is entrapment and entrapment is wrong."

Apparently, the teens, members of the Police Athletic League Cadet program, have received the permission of their parents.

"There are numerous instances where parents give permission to their children to do things in which the child has become injured. Then the parent proceeds with litigation and they succeed," Anthony said. "The use of children for the purpose of law enforcement can subject the City and County of San Francisco to tremendous cost in terms of litigation and judgments."

Defending the actions of police outside on Polk Street, Militello said, "I can't comment on the behavior of individual officers if I am not out there, but I assure you it is not to hassle any particular group or individual."

Many gay young people standing on Polk Street are assumed to be hustlers, and police frequently shine spotlights at any group congregating on the sidewalk.

"When a police officer shines a light on you it automatically suggests to you there is some suspicion, that there is something wrong with you or that there is some concern your conduct is not appropriate," Anthony said. "If you are acting in a very lawful, non-violent, non-obstructive way, then clearly that is frightening."

"Just because the walls are going down in East Berlin doesn't mean they need to go up on Polk Street," he said. "There is absolutely no justification for harassment."

Hongisto's office is now asking that any person who feels they have been the victim of harassment by police to call his office at 554-5664.

"I certainly hope they will also contact the office of the ACLU because there are some very serious civil liberties that are at stake here," Anthony said. "The right of movement and the right of access to public streets is so fundamental that we want to make sure those rights are not in any way restricted."

Anyone who feels that they have been victims of improper conduct by police should call Militello at 553-1348. ▼

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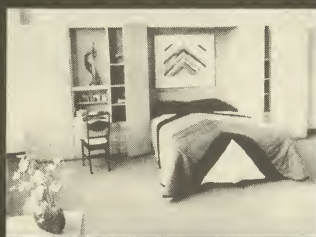
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Gay Legislator Getting Results in Washington State

by Dell Richards

Washington state Rep. Cal Anderson is one of the few openly gay politicians who have reached the hallowed halls of a state capitol, one of a handful of gay men and lesbians who have been elected to state or national office.

Although few acknowledged homosexuals have made it that far, Anderson doesn't think being out has been a drawback.

"Can you imagine how much energy I would have to put into hiding who I am? It would be incredibly destructive," Anderson said.

In many respects, Anderson is the perfect gay person to have run for office.

A Washington state native who grew up in the suburbs of Seattle, Anderson is a hometown boy who served in Vietnam. As such, he can lay claim to one other necessary ingredient for political success—proven patriotism.

Although he never married and has no children, he has been partners with the same man for the past five years. They own a home together in Seattle, though Anderson stays at a local Jesuit College in Olympia during the two-to-three month legislative sessions.

As a result of running his father's political campaign, he learned to trust the political process at an early age. He also believes that people will "do the right thing" if educated and given a chance—even when it comes to such volatile issues as gay and lesbian rights.

He's seen it happen time and time again; he sees many gains for gays and lesbians in the 1990s.

"There has been statewide civil rights legislation," he said. "It now exists in Wisconsin and Massachusetts—and we've come close in other states."

"There have been many more open gay and lesbian officials elected and appointed to office."

"A recent Gallup opinion poll showed that most of the American public supports domestic partnership rights."

Anderson believes in the long-term effectiveness of the political process, one that eventually comes to a consensus even though it is a struggle.

He began thinking people could make a difference more than 25 years ago when his father ran for city council.

At 16, he plunged into the idea with fervor and tasted grass roots politics for the first time by organizing his father's successful bid for office.

That triumph whetted his own appetite.

He became a Democratic worker, going door-to-door with party literature and stuffing endless envelopes.

He spent years in the trenches but the hard work paid off. He held numerous party offices and recently was chosen state party secretary.

In 1987, while working as an aide to Seattle's mayor, he was appointed to fill a state representative vacancy.

Until then, his sexual orientation hadn't mattered.

"Being gay wasn't even an issue in the appointment," Anderson said.

But it became one in his 1988 election campaign the next year.

"The GOP opposition listed me as the former gay aide to the mayor. They didn't say I was the secretary of the state Democratic Party, the former party chair or a Vietnam Vet," said the man who spent 1970 in a war zone and holds two bronze stars and four Army commendation medals for it.

While Anderson admits he wasn't in direct combat, his job as a court reporter took him into the line of fire many times during his one-year stint.

In addition, his opponent used campaign literature to ask if a gay man was the kind of role model voters wanted for their children.

But the opponent's plan backfired.

Anderson won by an over-

whelming 78 percent in the 43rd District, one that is about 60 percent Democratic and 10 to 15 percent gay.

Despite the major setbacks to gays in the past decade, for every loss, Anderson sees a small gain.

And he sees recent rejections of gay issues on referendums in Athens, Ohio, San Francisco and Tacoma, Wash., as temporary.

The bitter November defeat in San Francisco on gay domestic partnership rights is a textbook example to Anderson.

"We lost by a small margin. Given another chance, we'll prevail," he said.

It's this resilience that has made Anderson a successful politician.

By quietly learning the legislative ropes—how to work in committees, how to influence other legislators—Anderson was able to co-sponsor 88 bills and carry two of his own in his



Cal Anderson

first session.

This past year he also introduced a gay and lesbian civil rights bill that he thinks will make it through his chamber.

This year Anderson introduced House Bill 2072, a gay civil rights bill that passed the state House by a 51-47 vote last month.

According to Anderson, it is the first time the bill, authored in 1977, has ever reached the floor of either the House or the Senate.

The bill would have extended Washington state discrimination protections in housing, employment, credit and insurance and public accommodations to gays and lesbians.

The bill failed to get out of the House, because the state Senate killed the bill by refusing to hear it.

Anderson plans to reintroduce the bill next year. He concedes that the measure wouldn't be taken seriously, if he weren't in the Legislature, raising awareness of gay issues day after day.

Being an advocate for the gay and lesbian community isn't the only role Anderson plays. He is the vice chair of the State Government Committee in the House. He served on Financial Institutions and Insurance, Human services and Housing Committees. His priorities also include children's issues, education, tax and voter registration efforts.

Because of his deep feelings about broader issues like child care, Anderson thinks he has shown other legislators that gay people are not that different from anyone else.

Whether it's in politics or private life, Anderson stresses that gay men and lesbians need to take the first step—coming out to at least one heterosexual.



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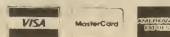
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RSVP



Salk

(Continued from page 1)

nuns to volunteer has been denounced by many gay and lesbian activists as an empty gesture that sharply contrasts with the Catholic church's militantly homophobic stance.

"Mahony has single-handedly blocked many AIDS educational measures," Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force said.

"I can't help but see this program as a public relations effort," said Martin Delany, founder and co-director of Project Inform, the community-based AIDS research group.

"The Catholic church has real responsibility for the epidemic. They've interfered with AIDS education programs, have driven Dignity (the gay and lesbian Catholic group) out of the church... and been a font of homophobia in the world."

Delany pointed out that the actual risk to volunteers in this

trial is "minimal to nonexistent," and warned that the search for low-risk subjects among Catholic clergy "overlooks the high percentage of homosexual people in the church itself."

Salk asked the Chicago Tribune not to run the story until the protocol was approved....

Researchers are concerned that the negative publicity associated with the premature call for volunteers—Mahony's letter was sent out on Jan. 22, long before government approval of the trial—could interfere with the research.

Salk asked the *Chicago Tribune* not to run the story until the protocol was approved.

ed, a request they ignored. Although a protocol investigating the therapeutic effects of the vaccine in HIVers was recently OK'd, the high-profile trial on HIV-negative people has yet to be approved.

Approval for Salk's study with uninfected people will come from the Food and Drug Branch of California's Department of Health, instead of from the usual federal authority, the FDA.

This is a fairly new route for government approval of clinical trials. The FDB has already approved another candidate vaccine study (HGP-30, mentioned above), and also Dr. Conant's passive immunotherapy study, although the latter is stalled for lack of cash.

Representatives for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles have stressed that no pressure was applied on clergy to sign up for the study. They have refused to comment on the exclusion of priests or to speculate on the proportion of priests who are gay and/or have AIDS. ▼

National Briefs

Iowa Court Backs Gay Father

The Iowa Supreme Court has rejected a trial court's order that a gay father was restricted to visitation with his children only so long as "no unrelated adult" is present. In lifting the restriction, the court stated that "[t]his unusual provision was obviously imposed on account of Michael's homosexual lifestyle." The case, *Walsh v. Walsh*, involved a gay father's efforts to retain visitation with his two children upon the dissolution of his marriage. Though his former wife conceded that Michael Walsh is a good and loving father who should have frequent visitation, she claimed to be concerned for the children because of Michael's "gay lifestyle." In a ruling that was clearly intended to keep Michael's children away from his partner, with whom he lives, the trial court imposed the much more sweeping restriction that no unrelated adult be present when Michael sees his children. Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, based in New York, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights, based in San Francisco, filed a joint friend of the court brief arguing that the trial court harshly penalized Walsh simply because he is gay and lives with his partner. ▼

ACT UP Billboards Posted in Chicago

A lesbian billboard created by the women's caucus of ACT UP/Chicago made its first appearance in a working-class, Hispanic neighborhood on the city's near West Side. Affixed to a brick wall next to a liquor store, the billboard pictures 23 women hugging and kissing beneath the large purple words "COME OUT." The billboard is part of the Randolph Street Gallery's "your message here" public art project and will be moved to other locations in the city in the next two months. The sites are chosen by the Gannett Outdoor corporation, which is donating the space. So far, all of the "your message here" billboards have appeared in poor and working-class neighborhoods. ACT UP project coordinator Mary Patten is not troubled about the placement, but says she would have translated "COME OUT" into Spanish had she known in advance of the billboard's present location. Two other ACT UP billboards are also included in the project. One reads, "AIDS Doesn't Discriminate. We demand AIDS education, treatment and support, no matter what it takes." The third ACT UP billboard features silhouettes of primarily black and Latino young people surrounded by the words "sex, condoms, racism, AIDS, safe sex, lesbian, gay, abortion and drugs." At the bottom, the billboard reads: "Talk About It." —Rex Wockner

Support for AIDS Disaster Relief

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation and local business leaders have announced their support for Sen. Ted Kennedy's Comprehensive AIDS Relief Expansion Act. "By 1993, in San Francisco's gay and bisexual male community alone, one in four men will be diagnosed with AIDS and San Francisco's AIDS-related costs will surpass \$400 million," said Pat Christen, executive director of the AIDS Foundation. "At the Foundation, nearly 80 cents of every dollar we receive comes from individual and corporate contributions," Christen continued. "San Francisco has the highest 'AIDS impact ratio'—number of new cases to overall population—in the country. Clearly, the San Francisco community does not have the resources to meet the needs presented by the natural disaster of HIV disease." "Corporations and individuals have always generously heeded the call for disaster relief in their communities," said Lee Smith, president of Levi Strauss, International. "It is the combination of federal relief with these local community contributions that stop human suffering and rebuild communities after a disaster." ▼

NGLTF Launches Post Card Campaign

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force will celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the introduction of the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill on March 25-27 with a series of commemorative events designed to increase momentum and awareness of the anti-discrimination legislation. NGLTF will launch a massive gay and lesbian constituent post card campaign to increase support for the bill in Congress. The objective of the Task Force is to pass the bill during this decade. The bill, officially known as the Civil Rights Amendment Act of 1990, was introduced into the 94th Congress in 1975 by then-U.S. Rep. Bella Abzug, the bill's first sponsor. NGLTF staff and board of directors were instrumental in securing the bill's introduction. NGLTF extensively lobbied Abzug and helped develop the bill's language and provisions. The act would prohibit discrimination on the basis of affectional or sexual orientation in the areas of housing, employment, credit, public accommodations and federally assisted programs. Passage of the bill would specifically amend Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion or national origin. ▼

Chicago Leather Bar Burns Down

Chicago's Touché bar, home of the city's leather community and a key component of the yearly International Mr. Leather contest, burned early March 10 and has been closed. Owner Chuck Rodocker said the fire apparently started in a utility room and will probably be traced to wiring or the furnace. Rodocker described the damage as "extensive" and said appraisers had not yet determined if the building can be salvaged. He said his options included repairing the building, building a new bar at the same location, building a new bar at a different location, or leaving the bar business. Touché was home to numerous leather clubs and had a long history of fundraising for community groups and organizations. —Rex Wockner

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ACT UP demonstrators invade TVC conference room (above). Police put on rubber gloves before making arrests (below). (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



TVC

(Continued from page 1)

Gay and Lesbian Town Council to protest a daylong TVC legislative briefing and conference focusing on homosexuality.

The spirited lunch-hour crowd of 100 expressed their dislike for the TVC's anti-homosexual agenda with signs, voices and emotions. "I believe that people don't choose their orientation. Homosexuality is for a gay person as natural as heterosexuality is natural. Orientation cannot be changed by prayer, counseling or therapy. It is a gift of God," Follansbee said.

Councilwoman Mueller told the rally, "The God I know is an inclusive God. People are to be loved for their differences. We must all celebrate our diversity."

The Town Council had earlier decided not to promote the ACT UP civil disobedience actions, but to hold only a peaceful demonstration. ▼

Van de Kamp

(Continued from page 15)

paign in operation, though, costs money, and most political observers now believe that money would be better spent by Van de Kamp on television advertising.

In fact, as paid staffers were dismissed from their jobs, they were told a major television buy from the Van de Kamp campaign would be appearing soon. They were also told the content of the television spots would be attacks on Feinstein, not pro-Van de Kamp spots.

In the meantime, the Feinstein campaign has kicked off a wave of television advertising this week in 20 percent of the media markets in California. The budget is \$200,000 and should give a saturation that equals an earlier \$600,000 buy in the Los Angeles market.

Neither candidate has any dates on their schedule to speak to lesbian/gay organizations in Northern California at this time. ▼

Ruling

(Continued from page 3)

Roberta Achtenberg said that if Brown ruled the ordinance invalid, "it would be a big blow to lesbian and gay rights. Ertag is very important. If Western Union prevails, it's going to be a tough fight that's going to take a lot of resources," she said.

However, Achtenberg pointed out that sexual orientation discrimination is also protected under Section 1101-1102 of the State Labor Code.

According to Achtenberg, those sections of the code protect against discrimination based on political belief—and have been upheld by the California Supreme Court.

She also said that state Attorney General John Van de Kamp had issued legal opi-

nions that being discovered to be gay as well as coming out on the job were protected categories.

According to Deputy City Attorney Buck Delventhal, the City Attorney's Office has intervened in *Ertag vs. Western Union* because the validity of the Human Rights Ordinance has been challenged—and because other ordinances such as rent control will be invalid if Western Union prevails. It would also end protection against discrimination on HIV antibody status.

If Western Union prevails, it could impact the anti-gay discrimination ordinances in Berkeley, West Hollywood, Davis, Los Angeles and Laguna Beach.

Melvin Honowitz, Ertag's attorney, acknowledged that the case could drag on for years because either way Brown's rule will probably be appealed. ▼

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World Briefs

Western Gays Come to Czechs' Aid

Because of an article published in gay/lesbian newspapers in the U.S., Canada, England and elsewhere, the founders of the Czech gay and lesbian movement received more than 200 letters and phone calls with offers of help at this pivotal time in Czechoslovakia's history. Lambda Union founder Jan Lány and his lover, Richard, are now considering a trip to the United States to further publicize the work and needs of the group, and are seeking sponsors to put up the hard currency needed for airline tickets. The group has about 80 members, although the bulk of the work is done by 12 people, Lány says. Several local and regional gay organizations have also come into existence, in Prague, Ostrava, Brno and Bratislava. To reach Lambda Union, dial direct 011-42-2-527-388. Or write: Lambda, c/o Lány, Pod Kotlářkou 14, CS-150 00 Praha 5 Smichov, Czechoslovakia.

—Rex Wockner

Woman to Lead Italian Gays

To the consternation of lesbian separatists and the cheers of "gaye" women, a woman has been elected national secretary of Arci Gay, Italy's 10,000-member national gay/lesbian task force. Graziella Bertozzo, 35, was chosen by an almost unanimous vote of the group's membership at the annual Arci Gay convention, held in Bologna Feb. 9-11. Two thirds of the group's members are men. The Italian Lesbian League promptly denounced the development, writing: "The recognition of our differences and our oppression has led us to reject identification with men, even gays, and to understand that men and women are never equal, even if they are all 'different'." In direct reference to Bertozzo, LLI said, "When you put a flower in your lapel, it usually just withers faster there." Bertozzo, the first woman officer in Arci Gay's 10-year history, is considered a key leader of a new movement to bring "gaye" women "out of the ghetto lesbian separatists have forced us into." Although not standard Italian, the addition of an "e" to the word "gay" serves to feminize it, according to movement spokeswomen.

—Rex Wockner

New Project Director On Board at GAPA

by Cindy Bologna

Having recently received a grant from the city of San Francisco, the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance Community HIV Project has announced the hiring of Michael Foo as project director.

Foo has been an active participant in the gay and lesbian community, particularly as a member of GAPA and as a board member of the Community United Against Violence.

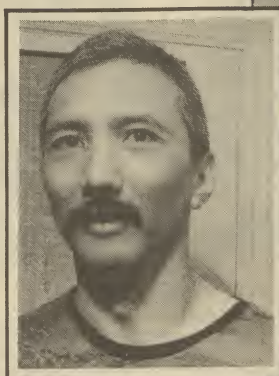
Officially incorporated in March 1989, GCHP was only recently able to hire Foo as its first full-time paid employee. The group has nine board members. Two additional slots are available on the board.

As the needs of the Asian Pacific gay male community were coming into focus and the incidents of HIV infection were on the rise, existing services were found to be lacking in preparedness to deal with the Asian Pacific population.

Foo claims that only recently has the San Francisco AIDS Foundation added hot-line services specifically geared toward Asians, but the services are reportedly ending in June. With most HIV and AIDS programs focused on the gay, white male population, GCHP was formed to provide informational workshops for gay Asian men.

"In our culture, homosexuality is viewed as an illness," Foo told the B.A.R. "Since illness is a taboo subject, gay Asian men with HIV or AIDS are often in the closet about both issues."

Foo also reported that when the epidemic was first being



reported, the disease seemed to be affecting only white men. Foo claims many Asian men, therefore, felt safe from HIV infection by not having sex with white men.

"There's a lot of denial in the Asian Pacific community," Foo said. "We hope GCHP will help motivate gay and bisexual Asian men to be tested for HIV."

The program will consist of six educational workshops: (1) What is HIV?; (2) Impact of AIDS in the Asian Pacific Community; (3) Pros and Cons of Anti-Body Testing; (4) Substance Use; (5) Early Intervention & Treatment; (6) Safer Sex Education.

GCHP also sponsors a drop-in group, which meets on the first Thursday of each month from 7:30-9 p.m. at Rest Stop, located at 134 Church St.

Foo will be directly responsible for coordinating the presentation of workshops to



Gay Asian Pacific Alliance Project Director Michael Foo.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

the community. He will also be in charge of identifying funding sources for the project. Foo hopes the organization will provide a positive gay role model for Asian Pacific Islanders, as well as encourage behavioral changes in terms of safer sex.

"We are asking for support from the gay and lesbian community at large in recognizing

that we exist and are part of gay and lesbian life here in San Francisco," Foo said. "We are not faceless people. Our cultures can only add to the diversity of the gay and lesbian community."

For additional information, call the GCHP offices at 541-0237. Or write to: GCHP, 2261 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

Senate

(Continued from page 2)

1991 levels.

"America responded within days to the California earthquake," said Kennedy in introducing his bill. "We have pledged tens of billions to rescue the savings and loan industry. AIDS is a comparable disaster, and we need to respond effectively."

Pointing out that a friend of his was featured on the large square from the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, which served as a backdrop to the press conference, Hatch outlined the bill's provisions, calling for "compassion and tolerance" of all those affected by AIDS and predicting the bill would be supported by the Bush administration.

"I believe the administration will be looking at this very carefully," said Hatch, adding that the \$600 million price tag of the bill is still "not enough."

Speaking to the massive number of reporters at the news conference—ostensibly there because of Taylor's appearance—National AIDS Commission member Belinda Mason called it "sad" that it took a celebrity's appearance to draw attention to the landmark AIDS bill.

Likening the AIDS crisis in cities like San Francisco and Los Angeles to the 1989 natural disasters in several American cities nationwide, California's Sen. Cranston said, "We must begin to view AIDS as a natural disaster, like earthquakes and hurricanes...With a million Americans infected with HIV," he said, "we know what's ahead with this epidemic."

Sick

(Continued from page 3)

work for at least 30 days and the employee has already exhausted paid sick and vacation time.

According to Hongisto's legislation, a city employee can fill out a Department of Public Health form and attach supporting medical documentation to obtain such classification.

Following a Health Department determination that the worker is suffering from a catastrophic illness, the employee's department head will be notified.

The employee is then eligible to have sick and vacation time transferred to him by other workers.

Transferring employees must retain a minimum sick leave balance of 64 hours, can only transfer credits in units of eight hours, can transfer a maximum of 80 hours per pay period and can transfer up to 480 hours—or three months—of benefits per year.

Hongisto's legislation also caps the amount of credits an employee can receive at 3,120.

Supervisors Terence

Hallinan and Harry Britt voted in favor of the legislation. Supervisor Tom Hsieh, who wrote a ballot argument opposing the measures, voted against it.

There will be no cost to the city for the transfer of vacation credits, because the city already has to pay workers the benefits.

According to Hongisto aide T.J. Anthony, although final cost estimates have not been attached to the legislation, costs could range between \$18 million and \$20 million a year for the sick leave transfers.

"It's a substantial and humane proposal. People with AIDS don't need lip service, people with cancer or other diseases don't need lip service. Now, we're saying we can give them some measure of support as they confront the bleak medical realities," Anthony said.

Anthony was critical of "numbers crunchers" in the Controller's Office and staffers for Mayor Art Agnos who opposed Hongisto's legislation.

"They ask where will the city get the money. They can get it from the ballpark. Where is all the money they were going to spend on a ballpark that didn't pass?" Anthony said. ▼

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All The News That's Fit To Dish
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NGRA

(Continued from page 1)

all," White said. "He totally supports NGRA."

"In any employment situation, sometimes things work out and sometimes they don't. He is resigning under positive terms. There's no anger or resentment toward NGRA," interim Executive Director Leonard Graff said.

Bryan's departure, which leaves the agency with no legal director and no staff attorneys to handle NGRA cases, has raised concern among some local lawyers about the agency's ability to fulfill its mandate.

According to Gary Woods, director of the Marin County Legal Aid Foundation, cooperating counsel are handling the bulk of the firm's caseload.

"For the last four months, the NGRA caseload has been dead. The Human Rights Commission and the AIDS Legal Referral Panel have been picking up the slack. For the last four months NGRA has been useless," Woods said.

NGRA is conducting interviews to replace former staff attorneys Cynthia Goldstein and Schatz, whose termination last November following allegations of turmoil in the agency appeared in the press.

The terminations of Schatz and Goldstein set off a furor in the national gay press and among civil rights and public interest law firms around the country.

A month after the whistleblowers were fired, Jean O'Leary, NGRA executive director, resigned following revelations regarding staff abuse and controversial fund-

ing and management practices.

Bryan's departure was not announced to applicants interviewing for the vacant staff attorney positions, and Bryan acknowledged that the agency had initially planned to deny rumors of his resignation circulating in the local legal and gay rights communities.

In fact, Bryan's resignation was kept secret from some members of the NGRA management team and prospective staff attorneys being interviewed.

Woods of Marin's Legal Aid Foundation, who interviewed for a staff attorney position with NGRA, said that he was not informed that Bryan had left the agency and "found it curious" that Bryan was not in the hiring interview.

According to Woods, he grew disgusted with the interview process and turned down the position because, among other reasons, he learned that the new corporate counsel of NGRA was Joe Schwachter, a senior partner in Littler, Mendelson, Fastiff and Tichy, a local law firm.

Woods said the appointment was a disturbing trend for NGRA. He said the firm was well known in legal circles as an anti-labor firm.

"Why would they hire an attorney from an anti-labor law firm to be their corporate counsel and to conduct the interview? It's very odd at best."

According to White, the firm is "an employment labor law firm that has a history of representing larger firms. I don't think they could be called an anti-labor law firm. Joe is a pretty prestigious senior partner."

NGRA is one of the largest publicly funded national gay organizations. ▼



Speier Receives AIDS Award

Mobilization Against AIDS, California's oldest AIDS lobbying group, has awarded its 1989 "Legislator of the Year" award to Assemblywoman Jackie Speier (D-South San Francisco). "We're honoring Assemblywoman Speier because of her superb legislative record in the area of AIDS," said Ken McPherson, co-chair of the San Francisco-based group's board of directors. "We are particularly impressed by her sponsorship of AB1600 which provides for early treatment centers for those infected with HIV." Previous recipients of the award include U.S. Reps. Nancy Pelosi and Barbara Boxer.

Lawyer

(Continued from page 1)

insurance. I didn't single him out," White said.

"I was surprised that the chair of the NGRA Board thought it was an appropriate question," said Cynthia Goldstein, former NGRA staff attorney. "Besides the fact that it is illegal for the question to be asked, it's illogical that the question would be raised to a gay man about insurance, especially in an agency fighting for insurance coverage for gay men in the middle of the AIDS epidemic."

In San Francisco, employment decisions based on HIV

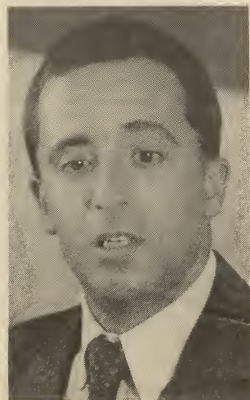
status are illegal and actionable. California also prohibits the use of HIV status to determine health insurance benefits.

The revelation that White asked Schatz his HIV antibody status caught at least one local gay rights attorney by surprise.

"You mean someone in the movement asked that? If it had been me, I would have told him to fuck off," the lawyer, who declined to be named, said.

Neither Schatz nor Goldstein will be offered their jobs back, according to White.

"I've got a better chance at getting a job with the Traditional Values Coalition than I do with NGRA," Schatz acknowledged. ▼



Ben Schatz

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Controversial Celeb To Sub for Pat Sajak

by Allen White

Just days after returning Andy Rooney to their network, CBS-TV has announced that Rush Limbaugh will sub for talk show host Pat Sajak on March 30.

Limbaugh is a regular in the KGO weekend radio lineup. He is heard on Saturdays and Sundays from 4-7 p.m.

Following the ACT UP demonstration in December at New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral, Limbaugh reportedly said, "Take your deadly, sickly behavior and keep it to yourselves."

Recently he told the *Los Angeles Times*, "I don't think I am known for my anti-gay comments. I have some outspoken opinions about the politics of the gay movement. I have simply opposed the politics of them."

Limbaugh follows in a tradition of "shock" jocks, journalists and TV hosts who are used as a device to stimulate ratings for media organizations who have ratings problems. The Pat Sajak Show is artistically and commercially a ratings disaster.

Locally, the Sajak show airs on KPIX at midnight.

CBS first used homophobia to gain ratings in 1979 with a program filmed in San Fran-

cisco called, *Gay Power, Gay Politics*. They followed that with a 60 Minutes segment in 1983 using Sister Boom Boom to mock the city's gay community.

Recently, they have spent a good deal of time justifying Rooney.

Take your deadly, sickly behavior and keep it to yourselves."

CBS has said that "there will be no ground rules" for the program.

For Limbaugh, the one night subbing for Sajak is an opportunity to see if his brand of conservatism and alleged homophobia can cause a few sparks and build some ratings.

KPIX, Channel 5, which will air the Limbaugh segment on the Sajak show, had no comment. ▼

Untangling Legal Questions

AIDS Law for Mental Health Professionals
by Gary Wood, Robert Marks, and James Dilley

by Michael C. Botkin

AIDS Law, the latest book published by the AIDS Health Project, is a unique work, and certainly the first on this topic. It fills a growing need for information on how to deal with the vague tangle of legal questions surrounding the HIV epidemic.

Although written for mental health professionals, this book will be useful to anyone working with HIVers and/or handling HIV-related information. The authors are, respectively, a lawyer, a writer and a psychiatrist. The combo has worked well, producing a book that is clearly written, legally sharp, and accessible and relevant to counselors and others.

For many readers the core of the book will be its second chapter, on confidentiality. Although in general what a person says to their counselor is confidential and protected by law, in California counselors have a "duty to warn people in imminent danger" of harm from their clients.

This results from the dread-

ed "Tarasoff" decision, which found a psychologist guilty of failing to warn a woman that her boyfriend intended to kill her. He did kill her; her family sued the psychologist and won, and the "duty to warn" was thereby established in California's case law.

Most counselors are very reluctant to break confidentiality, but the HIV status of a client often seems to burn a hole in the pockets of otherwise ethical health-care professionals. This book should go a long way toward correcting the tendency of care providers to blab about their client's HIV status under the mistaken assumption that they "have to" if they are to avoid legal liability.

AIDS Law clearly defines the restrictions on the flow of HIV information, and explains when and how and by whom the safeguards can be relaxed. The tone of the book consistently works to balance the often inflated fears of HIV infection against the rights of HIVers.

Chapter seven, "A Commentary on the 'Duty to Police,'" debunks the "myth of a risk free society."

In addition, the book covers issues such as suicide, determination of capacity to make decisions, and mental health professionals who themselves have HIV. The comprehensive appendices include an introduction to the legal system and listings of both AIDS service organizations and legal service providers.

This book could be read straight through by someone who wanted to know all there is to know about HIV legal issues, but it is designed to facilitate use as a resource guide.

No doubt *AIDS Law* will be used to resolve intra-office disputes about how to handle HIV information all across the state and country. As such, it may do as much to protect the rights of HIVers and reduce HIV hysteria as a small army of activists.

Face to Face A Guide to AIDS Counseling



James W. Dilley
Cheri Pies
Michael Helquist

FDA OKs Trial Of Compound Q

by Michael C. Botkin

The Food and Drug Administration has approved a proposal by Project Inform to investigate Compound Q, despite the controversy raised by Project Inform's previous "underground" trial of the new AIDS treatment.

This is the first time the FDA has approved a trial by a community-based AIDS research organization.

The FDA approval has drawn criticism from the County Community Consortium, a network of doctors doing research at San Francisco General Hospital who are also researching Compound Q.

"This approval is a number of firsts," said Terry Beswick of Project Inform. "It's the first time a community-based organization has held its own IND (i.e., permission to experiment with an 'Investigational New Drug'), or been involved in a phase I (safety) trial, or sponsored a multi-site study, or received a large cash grant from a major pharmaceutical company."

Project Inform received \$250,000 from Sandoz Corp., the parent company of Genelabs, the U.S. manufacturer of compound Q. Genelabs will also be providing consultation and the drugs to be used in the trial.

Genelab's support was a major factor in getting FDA approval for Project Inform's study.

"In our application we referenced Genelabs' application for an IND, and this saved us a lot of paperwork, and we were able to move a lot faster," said Beswick.

Compound Q is an herbal extract that has been used in China for many years as a cancer treatment. Last year Project Inform ran an underground trial of the drug without bothering to get FDA approval, a move many saw as

undermining the entire drug approval system. Their new study will compare HIVers getting Q every three weeks with those getting it every six weeks.

"It's a much more controlled study, in a lot of ways," Beswick said.

Donald Abrams, M.D., of the CCC has criticized the FDA for approving the new protocol without ever discussing Project Inform's past history of underground trials.

"This approval tacitly condones their past trials," Abrams said. "It could lead to all sorts of research being done without review. If they can get away without following the rules, why should anyone bother jumping through all the hoops?"

A recent poll of 32 CCC physicians (about two-thirds of the doctors involved) found that a majority felt that Project Inform's underground trials were not helpful in promoting community-based research, and were critical about the way those trials were conducted.

Although Dr. Al Levin, one of the researchers spearheading the investigation of Q, has been quoted in the national media as declaring "the AIDS crisis will be over in a year," most researchers are less optimistic.

"That's a gross overstatement," said Dr. Abrams, referring to Levin's claim.

"I have taken no position in the effectiveness of Q," Beswick said. "I'm a researcher. I've heard good things from doctors and patients, but my role is just to find out if it's manageably safe."

The study will begin by the end of the month, and will eventually include 35 patients from the San Francisco area.



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DEATHS

Raymond S. Roberts

1954-1990

Our dear friend Ray has completed his passage from this life into eternal life. He fought a determined battle against HIV disease with humor, courage and the love and support of his family and friends.

Born in Vermont and raised in New Hampshire, Ray was a long-time resident of the East Bay before moving to the Russian River in May 1989.

Ray will be greatly missed by his parents, Bill and Marguerite, sisters Joyce, Susan and Martha, brother Ken, nieces and nephews, his friends and his cat Molly.

A celebration in honor of Ray's life will be held at Goat Rock State Beach in Jenner, Calif., on March 17, at 2 p.m., followed by a potluck at his home in Guerneville. Call (707) 869-3820 for more information.

As he wished, Ray's ashes will be scattered on Pisgah Mountain in a memorial service in Hinsdale, N.H.

Remembrances in Ray's name can be made to Face to Face/SCAN, in Guerneville, or to another AIDS agency.

We miss you, Ray. Our hearts are with you.

David Waggoner

Sept. 4, 1947-March 7, 1990

Originally from Texas City, Texas, David lived in San Francisco for almost 20 years. He was very active in our community, but usually behind the scenes where he would not be noticed. He worked at Castro Camera for several years, and was a founder of the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

David had many talents, including his photography, which he displayed at several Castro Street Fairs. David died at S.F. General after a short battle with PCP. He is survived by his lover of 16 years, Frank Hecker who held his hand through the last days and nights, his loving parents James and Anne, two sisters Beverly and Billie, and many close friends; all of whom will miss his postcards and the end to *The Repressions*. Those wishing to honor David's memory can donate to their favorite AIDS charity in his name.

John M. Street

Sept. 14, 1942-March 5, 1990

John left us quietly at home on that morning, after a long and courageous struggle with AIDS.

He lived his life with all of the energy and passion that will remain with us forever in his creative works and where he touched us all, as individuals.

He was a prolific man, talented and creatively expressive in ways that only nature could reproduce. John was generous and caring. He had a wonderful wit and was a man of great style and charisma. Like his work, he will not be matched.

He left many who loved him, and will join many who are waiting. We will all miss you and think about you, John, and each time we think of you the phrase by the poet Lucretius will come to mind: "If life is lived, its length is irrelevant." I'll save the last dance for you...

Terry Maxey

Terry was born May 2, 1942 in Richmond, Va. He spent his childhood in the Norfolk-Newport News area of Virginia. He attended First Union Military Academy near Richmond. He served in the army in Germany. He lived in San Francisco since 1969. He died March 6, 1990 after a short battle with AIDS. He is survived by family and friends.

Vern Schlenker Jr.

Vern Alex Schlenker, Jr., 44, died peacefully in his sleep Feb. 15, in San Diego of AIDS.

Vern was a central figure in structuring the organization and the incorporation of Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship International Inc., a worldwide support group for Adventist gay men and women. He served as president of Kinship for two terms beginning in 1980, and was regional director for several terms in Northern and Southern California until his death.

Vern is remembered for his generosity, his sarcastic sense of humor, his love of life, his love for gay and lesbian Adventists, and his love for Craig Roberts, his lover of 10 years.

When Craig died four years ago, Vern turned his focus toward AIDS education and in 1987 moved from San Francisco to San Diego.

Those who continue to love him include his mother, Iva Schlenker of Sacramento, his sister Shirley Jones of Riverside, his brother Bill of Coos Bay, Ore., his sister Pauly Rowan and brother Dick, both of Sacramento, his extended family of Kinship worldwide, and many personal friends.

A memorial service was held in San Diego on Sunday, Feb. 25. Friends and loved ones are invited to attend a gathering to celebrate Vern's life at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 1, at 217 Collingwood, San Francisco.

A fund has been established by Kinship to provide financial assistance to persons with AIDS in Vern's memory. Contributions may be made to "S.D.A. Kinship: Vernon Schlenker Memorial Fund," P.O. Box 3840, Los Angeles, CA 90078-3840. Persons desiring further information may call (415) 255-7346.

Walter William Stark

July 3, 1939-March 2, 1990

"Just as out of the dark ground comes the blossom, so out of the night, a morning appears."

Walter grew up on North Halstead in Chicago. At 24 he moved to the City by the Bay, the place he loved. He worked at St. Luke's Hospital most of his 20 years in San Francisco, living on Sharon Street, then moving to New York City in 1983, where he found his love who he then lost to AIDS in 1986. He was diagnosed in the fall of 1989.

He wanted to come home and head west. Arriving toward the end of January, anxious to resettle, he found "this place" on Guerrero Street. Home sweet home. A new neighbor is downstairs. Keeping to himself, we slowly got to know him. He started to grow weak and his breath of life was becoming powerless. Leaving for St. Luke's on a Sunday afternoon, it would be home until Friday, March 2.

One thing for sure that we all are loved. Walter, thank you for letting me share the closing of your life and it was an honor. You shall change lives with your passing and these are the mysteries of life. In this short time as a friend you have put a change in me—much love and light, Timothy.

Also he will be missed by the friend of life, Vivian Staicoff of Skokie, Ill.

A memorial service is being held on March 19, Monday at 12 p.m. in the Old St. Luke's Cathedral on the grounds of the hospital.

Any donations for Walter Stark to be sent to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., SF, CA 94110.

Ron Hobbs

Oct. 2, 1956-Feb. 20, 1990

There are no more comforting words than those expressed by Ron himself that the past year was the best year of his life.

Five months after an AIDS diagnosis and five years after HIV infection was detected, Ron succumbed to AIDS-related complications.

Ron was born and raised in the Chicago area. He received a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in conjunction with the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis.

While pursuing his education and working in both cities, Ron developed many friendships that would figure in the final days of his life.

Ron also looked beyond himself and considered the needs of others. He was known for his concern for the elderly and while in Chicago Ron became an essential part of one woman's life, Helen, whom he visited regularly.

Ron moved to San Francisco in 1988. He worked for I. Magnin Co. and continued his volunteer work at an AIDS hospice. Ron also participated in numerous HIV-related support groups until he was hospitalized in December.

Barbara Rost is the lone survivor of Ron's immediate family, having lost both parents in the past five years. Ron is also survived by many friends and loved ones from all over the country who visited and guided Ron through those final weeks.

Barbara and all would like to extend special thanks to the Planetree Unit at Pacific Presbyterian for their compassion and expertise offered during Ron's illness.

A memorial service will be held at Grace Cathedral on Saturday, March 17, at 11:30 a.m. After the service Ron's remains will be laid to rest in the Columbarium at the Chapel of St. Francis in Grace Cathedral.

A celebration of his life will be held at Ron's home in San Francisco after the memorial service. For information, please call 285-1838.

Alan Bruce Greene

Jan. 12, 1950-Feb. 26, 1990

As his Father the Sun reached the zenith on Mardi Gras Eve, my friend, student and fellow explorer of the Mysteries, called Alan Greene in the world of men and Frater V.S.I. in the Order in which he was an Initiate, departed the dense plane of Earth, and returned to the arms of his Mother, Our Lady of the Starry Heavens.

He was fascinated with the byways of the Universe, and found power and wisdom through various Paths, notably Tantra, the Shamanic Way, Taoism, the martial arts and the Thelema of The Master Therion, Aleister Crowley.

A valiant Knight of truth, he fought superstition and the tyranny of Christist dogma and guilt whenever he encountered them. His valour has earned him release: he is now a Free-man of the City of the Stars.

The healthy spiritual soil of California allowed this man to blossom. Here he found the Paths and side-trips, the madmen and the Magi, the beastly bodes and beautiful boys. Enraptured by the Pageant of Reality, he shared his Light with us for 40 years. Now, having tired of the toys of matter, he readies himself to return yet again, for he knew he had not done with the lessons of Earth-life.

At his request, a Greater Feast was held to celebrate his passing. Cremation, as befitting a Tantrika, was accomplished. An Ascension Service/gathering is planned. Call 626-1361 for information. Love is the law, love under will. —Frater L.E.T.

Robert K. Mann

Jan. 29, 1951-Feb. 14, 1990

It wasn't so much because he was so attractive and such a good square dancer when he arrived in San Francisco for the 1986 Third Annual Gay Square Dance Convention, but it was when we saw the six-foot Statue of Liberty complete with torch and tablet kicking up its heels with the rest of the dancers that we knew someone special had landed in our midst.

Bob was born and raised in Seattle, lived with his family in Hawaii for several years and then struck out on his own. He spent two years as impressionist Jim Bailey's road manager, spent time in domestic service to other Hollywood notables and then moved on to New York where, in addition to his continued domestic service there, he also became a founding member of the Times Squares—the only square dance club gay or straight in all Manhattan.

Again feeling a need for change Bob traveled around the world for a year, danced his way across the United States and arrived in San Francisco in time to dance with 260 other dancers at the Closing Ceremonies of Gay Games II.

With the aforementioned convention the very next weekend Bob decided to make San Francisco his new home and became resident manager of the Dolores Plaza Condominiums. He worked diligently to make the complex a clean, safe and secure one on the fringes of a troublesome area of the city. For his efforts he was highly regarded by both the owners and the management company.

Dancing with the Western Star Dancers, the Midnight Squares and Pace kept Bob busy, happy and even back in "show biz." In 1987 the Western Star Dancers put on their talent showcase "Club La Star" for which Bob created the dazzling folies costumes, choreographed the finale and helped the show be nominated for that year's Community Awards.

After that Bob helped then Grand Duchess Flame stage the routine which won Best In-Town number at Coronation 1988.

Talented, witty in the best sense of the word, ever patient and helpful whenever he could be, Bob's passing brings home once again the true tragedy of this epidemic—the loss of our best and our brightest.

Anthony "Tony" Dadario

June 23, 1942-Jan. 28, 1990

After a two-year struggle with AIDS, Tony "Auntie Mame" Dadario passed away at Mount Zion Hospital.

Tony was born and raised in Syracuse, N.Y., where he graduated from North High School in 1960. He earned a B.S. in business from State University at Albany, N.Y., in 1964. Following his graduation he moved to New York City to pursue a career in design.

During his stay in New York, from 1964 to 1981, Tony held design positions with Van Huse, Enro Shirts, and Campus. Looking for a career change, Tony moved back to Syracuse where he owned and operated a flower shop from 1981 through 1986.

After an extended stay in Chicago where he was diagnosed with AIDS, Tony moved to San Francisco in 1988 with his extensive "monkey collection." He lived with his brother Michael and Michael's friend Mitchell, who Tony often referred to as "Blanche." Fighting all odds, Michael and Mitchell lovingly cared for Tony during his illness.

In addition to Michael and Mitchell and of course their dog Sherman, Tony leaves his brother John, sister-in-law Linda, and nieces Andrea and Jenelle of East Syracuse; sister Marlene Ranczuk and nieces Rene and Danielle of Livermore, N.Y.; mother Arlene of Syracuse; and last, but certainly not least, his beloved grandfather Anthony "Pa" Ciravolo, 94, of Syracuse.

A memorial and celebration of Tony's life was held in Syracuse on Feb. 1.

When listening to Judy Garland and hoisting a very dry Martini (with olive) we will always remember Tony lovingly.

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Richard Lynn Oldham 1954-1990

Rick finally left his city by the bay to enter into another world, a world of lasting peace. So many of us will miss that impish smile and those laughing blue eyes.



After a 5 1/2 year battle of winning round after round with AIDS, Rick went away in peace in the early morning hours of Feb. 27, just one week from his 36th year.

Born in Corcoran, Calif., Rick is survived by his brother, Danny, and his sister, Claudia. He will be remembered by so many of his friends, including Richard, Denis, Gary, Rocky, Tom, Ted, Dale, Gene (Dorothy Duster), many, many Shanti volunteers and by his close friend and neighbor Brian.

So long, Rick, until we meet again. —Rocky Rockwood.

Jeffrey Robert Long

July 11, 1955-Feb. 15, 1990

It was at 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15, that Jeffrey closed his beautiful green eyes for his fill of deep and peaceful rest after a long and painful struggle with AIDS, with his mother Jeanie, brother Joey, and lover Abatto at his bedside.



With his sharp wit, handsome looks, and athletic constitution, Jeffrey touched the lives of many. An impeccable dresser and necktie collector he glided through life charming his way into people's hearts to make an indelible mark. His constant search for a purpose and reason was only accentuated by this unfair card life dealt for us.

I will be seeing you again, my dearest Jeffrey, and I know that at the end of the journey you will greet me with a smile.

May you rest in peace, my unforgettable friend.

A gathering of friends is pending. Please call 661-0245.

Terry D. Jones

May 12, 1950-Feb. 25, 1990

Terry D. Jones passed peacefully on Sunday evening Feb. 25 at S.F. General Hospital after having AIDS for 14 months.



Terry was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, and moved to San Francisco from Houston, Texas, 3 1/2 years ago with his lover.

He was a former member of the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus and the singing group Menage.

Terry is survived by his father, Ned Jones of Kearns, Utah, and his lover of four years, Larry McFarland.

Terry, your memories and love will be with us forever.

Richard Douglas Winslow

Sept. 22, 1952-March 10, 1990

A quiet elegance, keen insight, and lively sense of humor will long be remembered by Rick's friends. Born in Ionia, Mich., Rick moved to San Francisco in 1979. From his beloved San Francisco, Rick traveled the world. Here at home he enjoyed dining out with friends, viewing San Francisco's diversity of architecture, and exploring the antique shops.

Rick's lover of many years, Michael Finden, preceded him in death in August 1987. Rick died peacefully at home with his beloved cats, Lily and Sarah, and his close friends, Michael Reimer of New York City, Susan Middleton and Ron Schultz.

Rick will be missed by his Aunt Bernadine Bradshaw of Piedmont and close friend Marie Nygen. A memorial Mass will celebrate the new life of Rick at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, at Most Holy Redeemer Parish.

Edward L. Donhowe

June 20, 1940-Dec. 21, 1989

Edward passed away at his home peacefully on Thursday, Dec. 21, with his lover Peder Pederson and his friend Gina.



Edward lived with AIDS for 3 1/2 years, never giving up hope for a cure. Edward always maintained a positive attitude and good humor throughout his struggle, which set a good example for all who knew him.

He was born in Story City, Iowa, came to California and graduated from UC Berkeley. Edward has lived in Boston, Big Sur, San Francisco and Oakland, where he has left behind many friends and will be missed by them all.

Edward filled his life with art. He was an accomplished photographer and ran a photography gallery in San Francisco. Traveling was another great pleasure of Edward's. He traveled around the world at any opportunity he received.

He is survived by his mother, Nada Donhowe, brothers Mark and Peter Donhowe, nephew and nieces, and many friends who gave him great support. Everyone who came to know Edward was enriched by his being, we are thankful for this.

David Lawson Kennedy

March 6, 1942-Feb. 24, 1990

"Full opportunity for full development is the unalienable right of all. He who denies it is a tyrant; he who does not demand it is a coward; he who is indifferent to it is a slave; he who does not desire it is dead. The Earth for all the people! That is the demand."



Eugene Debs may as well have written these words for Dave. This is how he lived; he died after a long, unbelievably courageous battle with AIDS not the least bit deterred. He may not have done much in the eyes of the public, but the rippling effects of what he did in his privacy will be felt for years to come. He will be very much missed by his lover, his dog Sam, his family and friends. Bye Dave...

Hugh Arnold Crell

Aug. 21, 1942-Feb. 24, 1990

I wish to thank Rice University and the National Merit Scholarship Corp for making it possible for a poor Army sergeant's son to obtain a college education. Thanks also to the U.S. Army and the Bechtel Group for the opportunity to live and travel extensively abroad. Much gratitude is due Charles Goren and the Quicktricks Bridge Club for many hours of enjoyment. A special debt is owed Shanti and its clients for their comfort and understanding. And I don't know what I would have done without the support and patience of my sister and her family. Finally, thanks to the good people of San Francisco who created a climate in which I could live in peace and harmony with my neighbor.

The American Dream certainly came true for me. It was fun, wasn't it? —Hugh Arnold Crell.

Jerry Braaten

Jerry Braaten passed away Feb. 17 in San Francisco of a heart attack. A Montana native but longtime San Francisco resident and true lover of our City of Light, his joy in our musical and theatrical life will be missed by many. In addition, his involvement in AA allowed him to share his personal growth with many of his fellow San Franciscans.

Memorial services were held at the Unity Temple on Feb. 25. He is survived by his loving mother, Victoria; sister, Lynne Arensmeyer, and her family Tom, Steve and Julie; brother, David; aunt, Annette, and her family Teddy and Tim; and aunt, Rita, and her family Tom and Nancy.

In recognition of Jerry's concern for the youth in our community, the family requests donations be made to the Larkin Street Youth Center, 1044 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA 94109.

Inspector Appeals Suspension Decision

by Dennis Conkin

Police Inspector Frank McCoy is appealing last month's decision of Chief of Police Frank Jordan to suspend him for two days in connection with a complaint filed by the late Bill Paul.

Jay Newquist, a free-lance reporter for the Bay Area Reporter who broke the Smoot story, was a co-signer of the complaint.

The complaint by Paul alleged that McCoy attempted to intimidate him by calling him and tape-recording their conversation—after Paul had filed a complaint against McCoy and three other officers, alleging that they failed to conduct an adequate investigation into the murder of George Smoot, a gay man.

Smoot was murdered by a 17-year old next door neighbor, Kali Smith, who was convicted of manslaughter.

In January, the Police Commission ruled that McCoy and the other officers had conducted an adequate investigation into Smoot's murder.

McCoy's appeal to the Police Commission regarding his suspension will be heard later this month.

HIV

(Continued from page 4)

capitalism. If proposed legislation will cost them money, insurers will oppose it, no matter how good and/or necessary it is. They are so powerful that they usually win, and we simply can't afford this anymore. In matters of public policy, like health and specifically AIDS, we can't afford to allow unbridled capitalism to run rampant.

How will all these changes be made? Don't count on the Bush administration to take the lead—we'll be lucky if we can persuade them to stop sabotaging other's efforts to fight AIDS. Don't count on Congress to do much either. Although some legislators are both far-seeing and courageous, most are too weak to take on any topic the pollsters tell them is controversial. Asking them to talk about sex and take on the insurance industry is pretty hopeless.

This leaves you, fair reader. When our "leaders" feel the heat from below, they start to move, as witnessed by the reversal under way on abortion rights. AIDS activists have shaken loose some changes, but the action of a few, no matter how high-profile, is no substitute for a mass movement. If the AIDS movement can build alliances and develop clout, we'll get the change we need. We need more than money, more than volunteers willing to care for the sick; we need power. If we get it, we can make capitalism work. If we don't, we'll be free to buy care if we can afford it, free to die if we can't.

Least Promising Treatment

Recently, a friend gave me a tract on ozone therapy by one Waves Forest of Monterey. Although it had a disquieting resemblance to the fine-print spiel one finds on the side of Dr. Bronner's soap bottles, I decided to treat it seriously and read it carefully.

"Simply put, the AIDS virus

[?] cannot tolerate high levels of oxygen," it said.

News to me, and not backed up by any convincing scientific studies, but the basis of ozone therapy. Blood is drawn from the credulous HIVer, ozone is forced into it, and the blood is re-injected. Then, the report says, "The disease will not return as long as the patient maintains his blood in an oxygen-positive state, through proper breathing, exercise and clean diet."

This pretty much stopped me in my tracks. Other blood treatment therapies, like PATH, require repeated treatments. To claim that HIV can be controlled by breathing and "clean" diet is outrageous.

But I read on, and after a long digression into the benefits of hydrogen peroxide,

Don't Count on the Bush administration to take the lead.

I eventually was rewarded with the following pearl of wisdom: Commenting on the beneficial effects of increasing oxygen in the brain, Forest says, "Americans will have an opportunity to outgrow many stupid things. As far as AIDS is concerned, some victims may find hyper-oxygenation [ozone therapy] cures them of not only AIDS but their inclination toward homosexuality."

"Victims" ... of AIDS and homosexuality? "Cured" of homosexuality? I tossed the offensive bullshit in the corner.

The next day the latest issue of AIDS Treatment News arrived, giving its first report ever on ozone therapy—Project Inform reported that no benefits were found. ATN commented that they had given up investigating peroxide two years ago "because of the difficulty of finding people familiar with the treatment who were not selling it." Let the buyer beware.

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Bay Area Reporter Greater Bay News

Panel Liberals Booted Out In Concord

by Keith Clark

After the Concord City Council dumped three liberal incumbents from the city's Human Relations Commission—including the commission's only openly gay member—East Bay activists accused the council of "disemboweling" the city's human rights watchdog agency, forcing those who are "passionately concerned" about the issues "out of the commission and into the streets," and accused the council of "deceiving the public" in its appointment process to the commission.

At its March 13 meeting the five-member City Council, including newly elected anti-gay member Lloyd Mashore, rejected the applications of all three HRC incumbents up for reappointment—Rev. Larry Whitsell, Mary Bacon and Lester Wong—and voted instead to name four new and largely unknown members to the controversial panel.

In appointing James Banks Sr., Lewis Green, Mary Kobayashi and Alex Ozuna to the embattled HRC, however, the City Council also rejected the nominations of Mark Zapalik and Joanne Rizzuto, Traditional Values Coalition (TVC) members who were chairman and treasurer respectively of last November's election campaign that overturned Concord's AIDS anti-discrimination ordinance which Mashore also personally fought.

Despite Mashore's political involvement with the TVC and his close work with Zapalik and Rizzuto during the election, however, the city clerk's

tally sheet of the council vote for HRC members indicated that neither received any votes although Whitsell received two council votes for the post.

When asked why he had not voted for either of the two candidates, Mashore said, "Oh, I just thought their presence on the commission would probably cause too much trouble right now."

In a fiery speech following the voting, Whitsell, pastor of the Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, told the council, "You've disembowled the Human Relations Commission. People sitting on the commission need to be passionately concerned with the area of human rights. What you've done is tantamount to shooting the HRC in the foot and watching it bleed to death."

Saying he had always cautioned against demonstrations and protests in the past, Whitsell, in an open declaration of discontent over their actions, told the council, "You have forced me out of the commission and into the streets."

Allen Shore, president of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, also voiced his objection to the manner of the council's appointments without allowing public comments beforehand. "I belong to a number of organizations throughout the Bay Area and I've never seen such a thing, such an undemocratic procedure in my life. You count your votes after deceiving the public who think they are going to be allowed to comment."

(Continued on page 29)



Eleventh Hour

Local playwright Will Dunne's new work, *Eleventh Hour*, premieres Friday, March 16 with Nina Wiser's *Guidebook to a Lonely Planet* at Marin Academy Theatre. For more information, phone 454-6056.

Assailant in SF Gay Death Sought in Vallejo Assault

by Allen White

The scales of justice can play strange tricks. Donny Clanton, one of three men from Vallejo who came to San Francisco in 1984 and were responsible for the death of a gay man on Polk Street, is again a wanted man.

A jury called it murder. The State Court of Appeals called it manslaughter, saying that John O'Connell died, not from blows inflicted by the three men, but from the concrete when his head hit the pavement.

That appeal meant the three responsible for O'Connell's death would be allowed to go free. Bill Fazio, an assistant district attorney, argued they



Donald Clanton

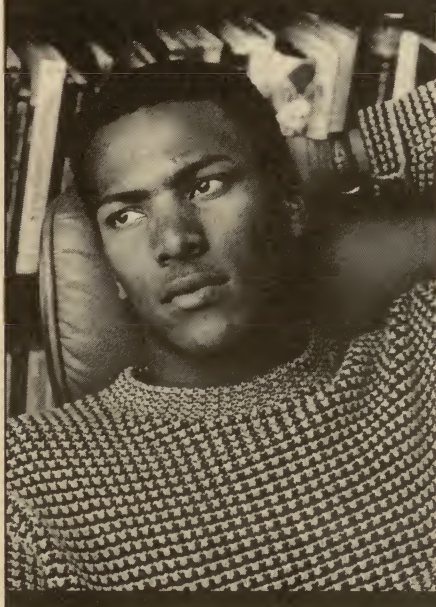
should not be released. He claimed in court they were dangerous and would be a danger to society.

In January the three were released and told to be back in court on March 1. David Rogers made it back. Timothy White is in a Fairfield jail on an alleged auto theft charge. Clanton is wanted by police and the courts. Not only is he wanted for not showing up in court but he has now been charged with battery.

On Feb. 3, Clanton went to the Nitty Gritty Lounge in Vallejo, where he ran into an acquaintance, Dennis Osburn.

(Continued on page 30)

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For Asian language/community information, call the Asian AIDS Project: **929-1304**

Funding provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and foundation, corporate, and individual donations.

Gays Join Demonstration At Oakland Prayer Rally

by Keith Clark

Anti-abortion advocates from Operation Rescue, which frequently uses blockade tactics at clinics to keep women from entering, got a taste of their own strategy Friday night, March 9, outside an Oakland church where one of its leaders addressed a prayer rally.

Joseph Scheidler, whose book *Closed: 99 Ways to Shut Down an Abortion Clinic* has been criticized for advocating violence against women and

gays, and some 100 Operation Rescue supporters had to be escorted by Oakland police officers through a blockade set up by the Bay Area Coalition Against Operation Rescue, including a large number of lesbians and gay men.

Scheidler was in town to help generate interest in plans for Operation Rescue blockades at Bay Area clinics during the weekend.

"We charge him with being anti-gay, anti-lesbian, anti-

women and essentially being a racist," Naomi Erickson of BACAOR said.

Scheidler denied being anti-gay and anti-lesbian saying, "I'm not into harassing gays," even though earlier in his address before anti-abortion supporters in Oakland's Shiloh Christian Fellowship church he said, "Men seeking men—I think that's sick and abnormal. But I wouldn't make fun of them; I'd pray for them and see if we can get them help."

of Concord, then told the council, "I want to thank the members of the City Council for 'disemboweling' some of the members of the Human Relations Commission."

To scattered applause from the audience, Allen said the HRC "had been stirring up trouble for years and it was about time it stopped."

Conservatives led by the TVC have long complained that the HRC was the source of "just about every volatile issue to hit Concord in recent years" and had "succeeded in crippling the city's political process" with a liberal agenda.



Concord

(Continued from page 28)

Shore was criticizing the procedure used at the City Council meeting.

The public comment segment of the meeting followed the appointments, which were taken care of at a special session of the council before it got down to its regular business.

Following Shore's and Whitsell's sharp remarks, they and most of the lesbians and gay men attending the council meeting walked out.

A final speaker, Lewis Allen

Greater Bay Briefs

Male Stripper in Assembly Race

The California Assembly's 28th district election in Santa Cruz doesn't usually attract much attention, but this year's primary is turning a few heads for unusual reasons from the typically staid and outnumbered Republicans. West Walker, 32, is the only Republican candidate who's filed "declaration of intention" papers to run against incumbent Assemblyman Sam Farr, a Democrat. West, who works as an "exotic dancer," advocates a world government and international colonization of outer space, also apparently has the support of the usually conservative Republican Party establishment in the district that includes Santa Cruz County and runs south down the Monterey Peninsula. Walker owns and operates Entertainment West, which provides male and female dancers—including himself—to dance nude at office parties and deliver strip-o-grams. But Walker says his unusual profession gives him a leg up on 10-year Assembly veteran Farr. "If I were a district attorney or some other bureaucrat, I don't think I'd have much of a chance," Walker said. "But I'm hoping to attract people who don't normally vote." Santa Cruz Republican Central Committee member Tim Morgan, one of the area's most conservative voices, said, "I think West Walker brings a new brand of enthusiasm to the race. He may be able to attract new supporters."

—Keith Clark

Lesbian-Activist Woo Running for Gov

Merle Woo, well-known San Francisco area lesbian activist, has announced her candidacy for governor of California on the Peace and Freedom Party ticket. Woo, one of the leading voices in the socialist-feminist organization, Radical Women, has been embroiled for the past eight years in an on-going battle with the University of California at Berkeley regarding her dismissal as a lecturer there. She now teaches women's studies at San Francisco State University. At the recent Santa Monica convention of Radical Women, Woo noted that as governor she would become an ex-officio member of the university's board of regents and would "go in with a broom and clean out UC." Woo's agenda also includes: an overhaul of the marriage laws to allow legal recognition of non-traditional relationships; government-funded child-care centers; legalization of all drugs; abolition of the death penalty, and legalization of prostitution.

—Keith Clark

Shared Housing Referral Service

The Center, provider of supportive services to men, women and children living with AIDS/ARC/HIV in the East Bay, is featuring a new program called the Shared Housing Referral Service. The program was created and developed in response to the demand for suitable and affordable housing for those persons of the HIV-infected community and who are on a fixed income. While the Center's SHRS program provides clients all the necessary and important information to make their own choices regarding their living situations, the referral service lets landlords or those with rentals to share list their vacancies without charge. For more information about this program, please contact the Housing Coordinator at the Center: 655-3435.

It was this sort of rhetoric from Scheidler, which has been reported in the past, that was responsible in part for drawing the noticeable number of lesbian and gay demonstrators to the BACAOR protest.

Anti-abortion advocates attempting to enter the church were repeatedly surrounded by BACAOR demonstrators shouting, "How does it feel to be blockaded?" and a few minor scuffles broke out.

Oakland police said there had been two arrests during the protest as the sometimes tense demonstration broke into occasional shoving matches.

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Friday

(Continued from page 11)

cy aid to care for people with the disease.

Miscellaneous

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed legislation last week urging the federal government to lift its travel restrictions on people with the AIDS virus before the international AIDS conference here in June.

Greenbrae banker **William Boerum** will be the GOP nominee for congress in November against U.S. Rep. **Barbara Boxer**.

Nothing funny about the rash of humor on the brain jokes being circulated about GOP Chairman **Lee Atwater**. They are about as funny as the AIDS jokes some jackasses delight in repeating.

And I've heard enough on **Andy Rooney**, but I got to believe that CBS' real policy has to be "if Andy Rooney makes us money, we couldn't care less if he's a racist or a homophobe."

A federal judge in Denver has upheld a requirement that all Colorado prison inmates be tested for AIDS and that those testing positive be segregated

from the rest of the prison population.

City Hall rumors getting stronger that **Supervisor Tom Hseih** is leaning toward a race for mayor in 1991 against Art Agnos.

And that's all folks. ▼

Hippler

(Continued from page 12)

On the other hand, for \$400, two-thirds of what it would cost me to join The Right One, I could fly to Chicago to see my boyfriend. There we could "redefine" the relationship all he wanted, and I wouldn't have to begin yet another "exciting adventure," this one for a woman of my dreams who never existed in the first place.

If I was mistaken, what did I have to lose? No doubt the mail carrier would continue to stuff my mailbox with fliers from The Right One, and I could always change my mind. Besides, if I couldn't lose, neither could they.

"If you are married or in a relationship but know someone who isn't," they added at the end of their last mailing, "do them a favor and give them this letter!" ▼

NEZ PAS

Some Have Food, Some Don't

Egads! "Phylicia" told me food over the phone, and I wrote down food in my notes. When I read the flier, there it was in black and lilac, "show, food and dancing."

However, being the gormandizer and trencherman—for both victuals and comestupance—that I am, and because it is almost guaranteed that the show will start at 7 p.m. sharp, I, naturally, just thought of dinner/repast/feast/banquet/table d'hôte/supper in connection with food rather than terms like noshes/canapes/appetizers/tidbits/nibbles/morsels/munchies.

Anyhow, when the Revolutes present "From The Chapel To The Gutter" on Saturday, April 28, Bjornson Hall, your \$12 Advance/\$15 at the door admission includes the show, the snacks and the dancing. There will be no dinner served, go somewhere either before or after the show.

Hell, why not "brown-bag it" like the folks do down in Hollywood Bowl, where "finger lickin' good" has more than three meanings!

mean as in brassiere) all morning!"

Yours truly was told (by Empress XI Timmi so it must be considered a Royal decree, right?) to stroke my own ego since I was in the bathroom when she called!

No, I have no idea how long it took them to get settled, but I understand that Alameda's Webster Street was totally devoid of "sea food" from 9 p.m. on!

Cretaceous Clydesdale

(A "Mounted" Nose?)

From the environs of the White Horse comes the following:

On Saturday, March 17, enjoy corned beef and cabbage from 5 p.m. on, dancing in the back room from 4 p.m. on, and green beer for 75 cents (Hey, it's St. Patrick's day!)

There will be "Tea Dancing" every Sunday starting at 4 p.m. with no cover charge!

Starting on Monday, March 26, and every Monday thereafter, watch/participate in Star Trax. That's where you use your own voice to sing to a recorded background selection. As Daddy David always says—well, he said it once, anyway!—"Get your voice out of the shower and onto the stage at the White Horse." Check with them for times and particulars.

POTPURRI

(A "Pasticcio" Nose)

No, I "know nothing" about the particulars surrounding the removal of Morgan and Toodie from the ISE Board of Directors. Words like "there's more than one way to get back at them" only adds herbage to the pasturage—and we all

know what's found on a pasture!

Yes, it's true. Suzie is back where she started—well, kind of, anyway. If memory serves (where is it when I need [knead] it?) Suzie started at the Chandelier in Hayward, which became Big Mama's. Anyhoo, Suzie can now be found doing her stick on the planks at Big Mama's.

The Turf Club has free pool on Monday nights, C/W dance lessons with John on Tuesday nights, Turf Club Attire drink specials on Wednesday nights, Oldies but Goodies with Kip on Thursday nights, and Wild Fire Band Friday and Saturday nights. All that and Frumpy, too? "Lizabeth, this must be the big one..."

Get your tickets for that mint condition 1974 Datson 260 Z. They are on sale at most bars in the realm. The winning ticket will be drawn by yours truly after the "Boys vs Girls Softball Game" in May.

Imperial Crown Princess Cathy Heart will host "Cavalcade of Stars" this Friday, March 16, at Bill's The Eagle, 9 p.m. This will be a "show of shows" with entertainers from all over the Bay area. There will be the usual raffles and prizes. Proceeds will benefit the ISE General and Charity accounts, 50/50.

I just looked up the meaning of the word entropy—"a thermodynamic measure of the amount of energy unavailable for useful work in a system undergoing change"—and I still don't know what the hell it means! You don't suppose it is referring to some bartenders around these parts do you? Nah...but I can smile because the countdown goes on...Love, Nez. ▼

nose, several scratches on his left ear and bumps on his head. Clanton, in the meantime, had fled the scene with several of his friends.

What allegedly happened last month in Vallejo is remarkably similar to what happened to O'Connell on Polk Street in 1984. O'Connell, like Osburn, had been leaving a bar when he was attacked by Clanton and the other two. O'Connell was hit and fell back hitting his head on the pavement.

Observers at the Hall of Justice said they were not surprised by the recent charges. Several remember that when the three walked out of the Hall of Justice a few weeks ago one was seen wearing a jacket with the words, "BORN TO KILL" emblazoned on the back. ▼

Vallejo

(Continued from page 28)

According to a police report, Osburn said Clanton confronted him in the bar and asked why he was telling people that he had just been released from jail. Osburn denied he said anything and went about his business.

As Osburn left the bar and went to his car, Clanton approached him in the parking lot. Osburn attempted to walk away. As he did, the police report alleges that Clanton then jumped Osburn from behind, striking him several times in the head with a closed fist.

When police arrived, Osburn had a swollen right eye, blood running from his

Gimme a Jingle on the Horn

(A "Station-to-Station" Nose?)

No matter what the situation was to cause the "morning after the night before," if the phone rings between 6 and 8 a.m. on a Saturday morning, you can bet the rent that it was from 1481 Timothy Drive in San Leandro. And the use of the past tense is correct here.

Let's see: is it San Leandro's gain, is it Alameda's loss, or is it Alameda's gain is San Leandro's loss? Whatever, the point is that the troika—heaven forbid it should even vaguely resemble a *menage a trois*—Manuel O., Paul M., Toots! F., have moved "en masse" (and in a car and truck or two, I would guess) from the suburbia of San Leandro to the "shruburbs" of Alameda!


And such goings on you wouldn't/would believe went on, so I was told. Such "delightments" as:

"Toots! may be a drag queen, but would you believe it took two people to move her organ?"

"Two people were actually screwing their legs off in the den that infamous early morning!"

"Empress XI Timmi wasn't fully loaded by a quarter to nine. It took her until 9 o'clock!"


"Val got into the act, too, and was in her cups (and I don't



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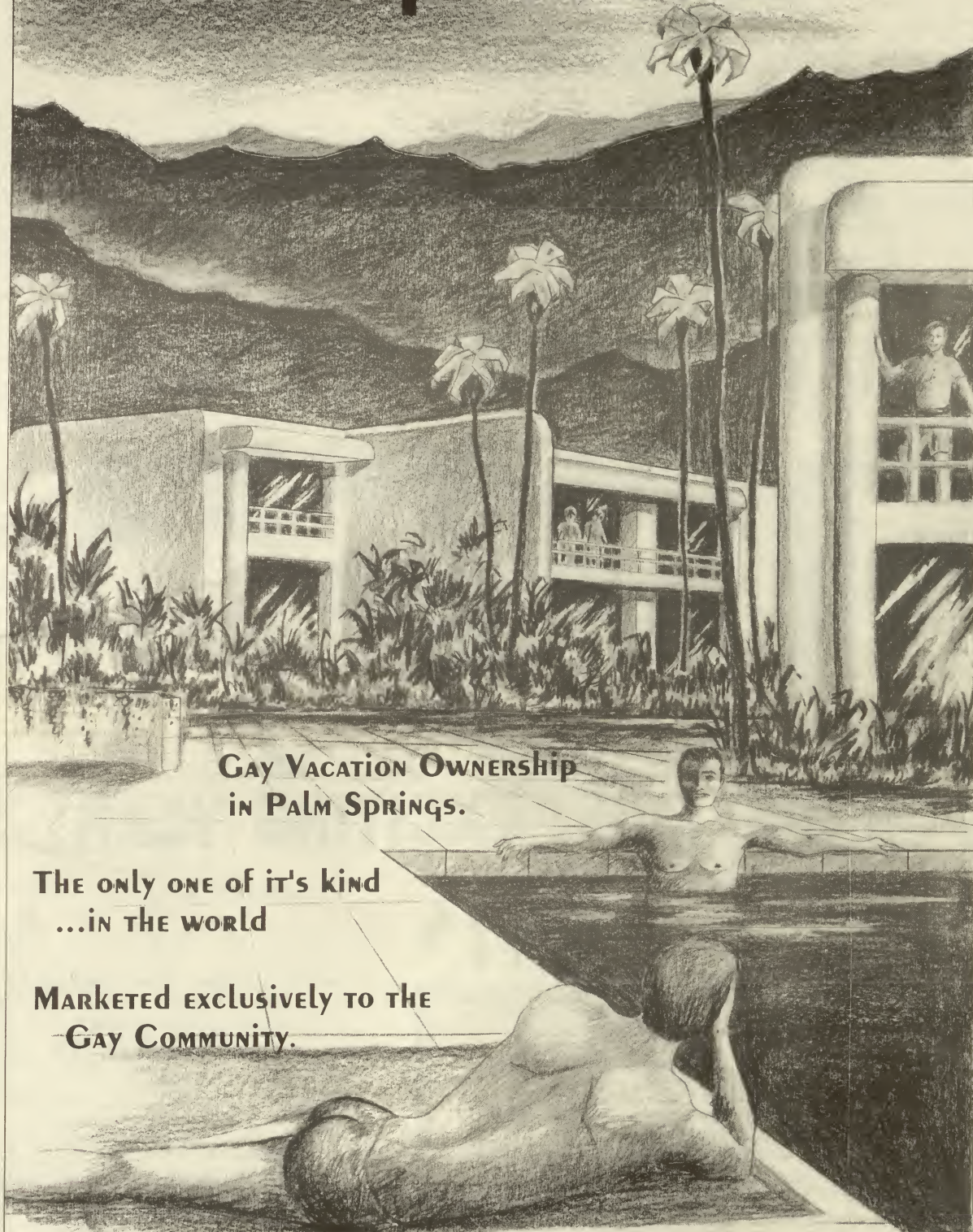
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Rumors, Riots, Celebs

Lesbian/Gay Films a Big Presence at Berlin Film Festival

by Brandon Judell

"Did you hear that Michael Douglas had fistcuffs with the Mayor of Berlin?"

"Nein! You're kidding!"

He was kidding. Yet this was only one of the rumors that folks started to spice up the antics in Berlin. It wasn't necessary. Crazy events were occurring everywhere for the 40th International Film Festival (also known as the *Berlinale*).

And that's surprising, because attendees had a choice of over 80-odd films a day at 20 theatres from which to choose. Plus parties! Gay saunas! Tours to East Berlin!

Quantity/Quality

The quantity and quality of gay films at this most important European showcase was a highly promising development. It almost seemed as if you could do nothing but view gay and lesbian themed, directed or produced films from morn until morn (screenings began at 9 a.m. and lasted until 1:45 a.m.) and still miss a few.

Thus, owing to the non-homophobic policies of this festival, gay product was being exposed to both straight and gay festival bookers, plus TV programmers and theatre owners from all over Europe.

To get the same-sex festivities going, openly gay Manfred Salzgeber, who books films for the festival's numerous Pano-



Actor David Wilms was sewn into a "hemorrhoid" outfit with director Rosa von Praunheim at the *Berlinale*'s opening night party.

rama screenings held his yearly gathering to announce the homosexual entries. With deep resonance, Manfred singled out each film with the

slightest tinge of lesbiana or poof hues.

Take, for example, Stanley Kwan's *Full Moon in New*

York, which has a subplot about an Asian lesbian who tries to ditch her full-length mink-coated girlfriend for a man to whom she's not really attracted. Without this briefing, no one would have known about the gay storyline, the film's producers having omitted it from the synopsis.

The festival programmers considered a U.S. entry, *The Natural History of Parking Lots* an especially homoerotic entry. The film seemed to be about a high schooler and his \$2,000-a-week guardian/boyfriend, both of whom like to piss together every chance they get. And it was written up as such in press releases! Later, when the director Everett Lewis showed up, however, it was discovered that *Parking Lots* was really about two close brothers.

Interspersed throughout the gay roll call were some advance screenings of gay shorts like Phillip B. Roth's *Boys/Life*, a popular pic about the inner tranquility brought on by jerk-off clubs versus the inner angst brought on by tongue-kissing Radical Fairies in Central Park.

Celebs Strut In

The next day, the festival's many doors opened, and the gay celebs started strutting in: director Monika Treut with her flick about ex-porn star Annie Sprinkle's cervix, video

artist Tom Rubnitz, Berkeley's Marlin Riggs with *Tongues Untied*, San Francisco's Bob Hawk (Film Arts Foundation), Michael Lumpkin (San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival), plus from Spain, novelist David Leavitt.

Representing the *New York Times* Sunday Magazine section, Leavitt was trailing Pedro Almodovar. The Leavitt profile promises to be an adulatory look at the tres gay director whose new flick, *Atame!* (*Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down*), was the most highly promoted movie in town. It was also the most controversial.

Atame!'s hero is a hunky mental patient (Antonio Banderas) who breaks into the apartment of a former porn star/heroine addict turned B-movie actress (Victoria Abril). His aim: to marry and breed with the star. To accomplish this, he knocks out one of her teeth, handcuffs her, and watches her pee. (Pee scenes are big this year, sprinkled throughout at least six or more flicks.) Then after numerous other humiliations intercut with boisterous claims of love, the damsel in distress falls madly for her abductor—and they live happily ever after.

Feminists and others were freaked out over the film's premise that mental and phys-

(Continued on page 45)

Socially Engaged

Celebrated Artists Contribute to Benefit Photo Portfolio

by David Hirsh

"The Indomitable Spirit" is an exhibit of over 100 photograph-based works that respond to the AIDS crisis, donated by some of the most celebrated artists in the world. The response is widely varied but pivots on the strength to survive and grow. After showing in at least three cities, the pieces will be auctioned at Sotheby's in New York to benefit the National Community AIDS Partnership (NCAP) and the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR).

A smart, subdued portfolio of 10 images related to this exhibit is touring separately around the country, and can be viewed at the Fraenkel Gallery, 55 Grant Ave., until April 14. This selection includes Duane Michaels' representation of a universal caring spirit and unlimited imagination, and Robert Rauschenberg's



Duane Michaels, *Untitled*, 1989. Silver gelatin print with ply overmat, 20x24 in.

abstraction about modern barriers. Bruce Weber, widely known for his portraits of comely athletes, shows the thin shadow of a figure thrown against a wall.

Also included are works by John Baldessari, Chuck Close, Jan Groover, Annette Lemieux, Richard Prince, Cindy Sherman (the only color image from an early suburban housewife series) and William Wegman. Funds from portfolio sales will also go to the two national organizations mentioned above.

Available at the Fraenkel Gallery as well is the catalogue for the larger exhibit, with 94 images, many in color. Each piece is accompanied by text further defining the response.

David Wojnarowicz is represented by one of his eight brilliant photomontages from the "Sex Series." Donald Moffett places text ("I'm Never,

(Continued on page 46)

Out Write Assessment

by Steve Abbott

The importance of Out Write '90, the national gay/lesbian writing conference held March 3 and 4 in San Francisco was not only its size (over 1,200 attended) or the tremendous positive spirit it engendered. The political, writing and publishing issues it raised concern all writers today.

While greater freedom has suddenly blossomed in Eastern Europe and Russia, America is ironically experiencing an upsurge of repression. Jesse Helms and others seek outright government arts censorship and gutting of the NEA. The FCC is once again trying to restrict what is said on the radio. Tom Wolfe advocates a return to social realism (shades of Socialist Realism) and big publishing houses are axing creative editors left and right—the latest being the forced resignation of André Schiffrin at Pantheon.

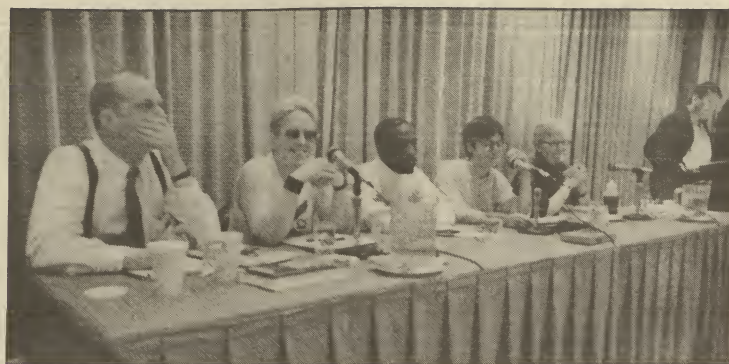
How can publishers, authors, and concerned

citizens join to fight this new repression? Judy Grahn and Allen Ginsberg addressed these concerns in their keynote speeches. The issue surfaced repeatedly—with various solutions suggested—at the two subsequent plenary session panels and in most of the other 29 conference workshops. Other issues discussed concerned practical publishing tips and New Narrative writing—San Francisco's answer to more traditional, assimilationist writing coming out of New York.

Pre-Conference Doubts

My initial response to the conference, sponsored by *Out/Look* magazine, was somewhat reserved when I first heard about it last October. Was there really a need for such a gathering? Would its purpose be clear and unified, or faction-ridden and confused?

Four months later I looked at the conference schedule and saw it was top-heavy with



"AIDS and the Responsibility of the Writer" was the Out Write conference's first plenary session. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

poets (e.g., Eileen Myles, Harold Norse, Aaron Shurin, Joan Larkin, Steve Benson, David Trinidad, Essex Hemphill, etc.). Most were on panels having nothing to do with poetry (e.g., "Writers as Activists," "Self-censorship and Personal Revelation," "Acting Out: Performance & Writing," "Older Writers"). There were two poetry panels but Marilyn Hacker, Alfred Corn and Tim Dlugos were the only names I

recognized out of the eight participants.

The playwrights' panel had no major gay male playwrights. A panel entitled "Working in the Mainstream" had Doug Foster, editor of *Mother Jones*, but ignored gay writers from the *Village Voice*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Examiner*, *SF Weekly* and *Bay Guardian*. (Those left out included folks

like Randy Shilts, Deb Bergman, Barry Walters, Edward Guthmann, David Bonetti, Dennis Harvey and David Israels. Gary Indiana was listed on another panel but didn't show up.)

The conference featured big name women writers, some of whom founded the first lesbian presses (e.g., Judy Grahn, Susan Griffin, Sarah Schul-

(Continued on page 44)

At The Panels

by Noreen C. Barnes

Someone who was not at the Outwrite '90 conference last weekend perhaps had the greatest impact upon our principal concerns as writers and on many of our discussions: Jesse Helms.

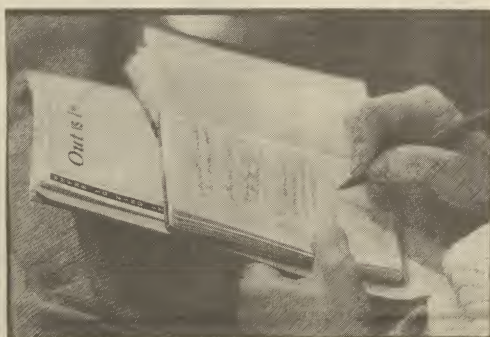
His name was taken in vain in the obvious, expected places—Allen Ginsberg's keynote address (Ginsberg speculated that the obsession of Helms with homosexuality was indicative of the senator's own sexual disturbances) and the panels on sex writing and censorship.

But it was also mentioned with almost every reference to the NEA, and T-shirts were on sale at the conference with the words: Outwrite '90, tearing in two the text of the Helms amendment. His specter hung over everything, and gave a great sense of unity to the plenary sessions, and a great sense of urgency to the work we do as lesbian and gay writers, critics, teachers, performers, editors, publishers, booksellers and readers.

Building An Audience

At the session on "Novels, Characters and Audiences," moderator George Stambolian ("the official lesbian at Wellesley College") spoke of building an audience for the work of gay and lesbian novelists—of bringing that audience out of the closet. He asserted that there was "no such thing as a politically innocent gay or lesbian writer" and that literary and political values must be balanced in the work we create, as we consider such things as appealing to a "crossover" audience, and the measures of commercial success.

Willyce Kim, author of *Dead Heat* and *Dancer Dawkins And The California Kid* spoke of the challenge of writing "humorous lesbian fiction" as a poet who began to write prose in "the darkest period of my life."



Earnest note taker at Saturday Out Write session. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

"Writing" she said "is like gambling. You can't win unless you play the game."

David B. Feinberg's remarks resembled the deadpan delivery of a stand-up comic, as he spoke of his writing career, of the "first person neurotic," and his being a writer because it was "cheaper than therapy." But he did include the advice to others to "write as if your life depended on it," to "remember the audience," and that gay writers had a "duty to write about the gay experience."

Fenton Johnson, author of *Crossing The River*, talked about the influence of his Southern roots on his writing (which is more the product of gay "sensitivity" than being overtly gay), the tradition of storytelling based on character and metaphor, and the evolution of one's work as one's community changes.

Valerie Miner's work as a longtime lesbian novelist is based, she stated on "the dream as a transparent metaphor." She noted the distinctions made in our society between art, which is rewarded, and work, for which one is paid. She emphasized the feminist foundation of her writing, which she described as "work emerging from the world of women." Miner is disturbed by several trends she sees: post-feminist discourse as a "code" which has been "absorbed" into the cultural psyche; the erosion of the contemporary women's movement; the substitution of "gender" studies for women's

studies; "choice" for "right," and the culture's invitation to women to "substitute motherhood for sisterhood."

Explicit Writing's Future

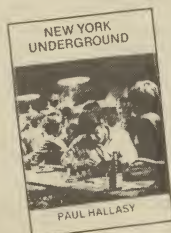
In "Coming Attractions: The Future of Sexually Explicit Writing," Tee Corinne spoke of the "unlimited future" of erotica as a genre of writing, and of sex as a spiritual quest (the connection of sexuality and spirituality was a theme echoed by other writers at other panels), a concept in need of further exploration.

Corinne also pointed to the need for more "sustained narrative" in erotic writing, as well as that for more sophisticated criticism, a greater connection of writers and ideas, and an expansion of the "borders of the genre" (particularly when the definition of

(Continued on page 43)



Writing is a gamble for Willyce Kim. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



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Hypnotic Visual Tapestry

Delayed by Legal Difficulties, 'Looking for Langston' Finally Premieres in San Francisco

by Warren Sonbert

Looking for Langston, opening tomorrow with Marlon Riggs' *Tongues Untied* for a one-week run at the Castro, is an exploration of the plight of the gifted, urban queer of color of our time. Although sometimes at cross purposes with itself, the film is worth seeing for the greatness its creator, Isaac Julien, promises.

Julien, who has previously worked on documentaries and

music videos, is black, British, and openly gay. Using juxtapositions of stock footage of Harlem Renaissance soirees against highly stylized narrative flirtations, Julien and his ace cinematographer, Nina Kellgren, concoct a hypnotic black and white visual tapestry.

Striking allusions to Paul Strand and Jean Cocteau abound, though at its best, as

in a kinetically intercut sequence of underexposed indoors with Bergmanesque overlit outdoors, *Looking for Langston* creates its own unique, pictorial world.

Sophisticated Cinema

There is a sophisticated cinematic attitude that is miles ahead of, say, Spike Lee's first similarly ambitious foray, the smug and maladroit *She's Got to Have It*. But because Julien's subject matter is not mainstream and his genre is not pinned down to either narrative or documentary, he is not likely to receive Lee's premature accolades.

Some of the film's most captivating moments have little to do with figurative portrait study—much less personality. The shots of train tracks, smoke stacks, cobblestone streets are worthy of the communicative eye of a Charles Sheeler or Laszlo Maholy-Nagy.

In truth the film's consummate strengths are on its formal and conceptual levels rather than its fuzzy verbal "ideas." Here poet Essex Hemphill's simplistic finger-pointing diatribes are no help.



Looking for Langston: A unique pictorial world.

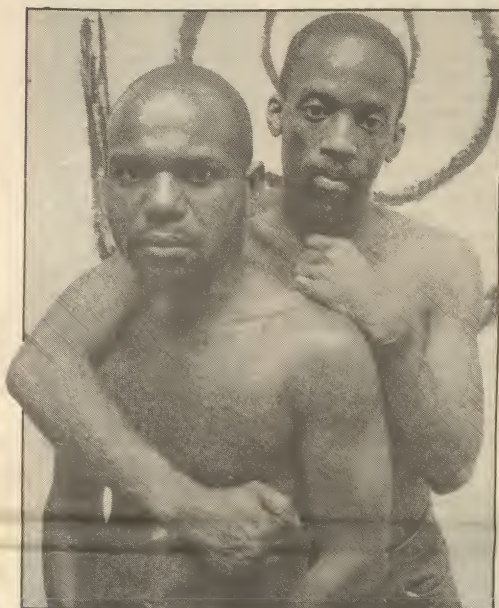
The enemies are always without never within is the worded track's easy marks stance. And in the authentic frustration of the search for a black and gay identity, the imagery is doggedly white, western and patriarchal.

Julien was threatened with legal action by the Hughes estate for including whole poems, as opposed to legal excerpts, and the estate's objections led to the film being pulled at the last minute from last year's San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The director apparently wanted an audience drawing card by exploiting Langston Hughes' name and fame.

But the film really has next to nothing to do with Hughes or his art beyond a couple of cheaply used TV appearances. And in that the title sets up ex-

pectations that are just not legitimately justified by the end results: At no point do the filmmakers attempt to explore the reasons why someone as renowned and talented as Hughes refused to come out of the closet (as opposed to his white contemporaries Tennessee Williams, Truman Capote to name but two) or in what way being black might be an added complication.

Hughes and the Harlem Renaissance are just used as tags, pull-ins and then conveniently dropped. Again this is not meant to diminish Julien's bravura stylistic accomplishment, but just to stress that one looks forward to a future work in which he will ensnare a firmer intellectual footing to embellish his visual expertise.



Marlon Riggs, left, and Essex Hemphill in *Tongues Untied*. (Photo: Ron Simmons)

Powerful Encounter

by Karl Bruce Knapper

The first time I saw Marlon Riggs' film, *Tongues Untied*, I remember being overwhelmed by conflicting emotions. I was simultaneously happy, sad, angry, thrilled and amazed at having seen my experience as a black gay man flash before me on the theatre screen. I have seen the film twice since then, and although my initial sense of wonderment has lessened, and I am now able to view it more critically, it still has the power to move me emotionally as no other film has moved me.

Visibility means survival and self-affirmation. Invisibility means that you don't exist. For black gay men there is a dearth of artistic material that reflects our reality.

The reason I experienced such conflicting emotion when I saw *Tongues Untied* was that until I saw it I hadn't realized just how starved I was for some validation and affirmation of my existence. Like many black gay men, I have become disillusioned and frustrated by the absence of anything black in the gay media and arts. I have searched endlessly through gay newspapers, magazines and films and never seen myself.

In desperation, I turned to the writing of black lesbians like Audre Lorde, Jewelle Gomez and June Jordan to get any acknowledgment of my existence. Except for *In The Life*, an anthology of writing by black gay men edited by the late Joseph Beam, and the poetry of men like Essex Hemphill and Alan Miller, there really isn't much writing by black gay men available. And film images of black gay men are negligible or nonexistent.

That's why a film like *Tongues Untied* is so important to black gay men. It affords us our first opportunity to have our existence affirmed and validated. Finally, we get a chance to see the broad spectrum of our experience and the myriad reflections of our lives, and it is an incredibly powerful encounter. It made me happy because I was finally able to see, feel, and understand that I am not the only black gay man to feel the way I do. It made me sad and angry because it opened up wounds that I thought were closed or healed and caused me to experience all over again the pain of being a black gay man in the United States. I was thrilled (as

(Continued on page 52)

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Three Thrillers Gone Wrong

by Warren Sonbert

The *Auteur Theory* is dead: At least it is in 1990 as regards three emerging directors. In each case a bravura initial effort has been followed by a distinct decline.

These *cineastes'* metier is the Thriller, an acutely cinematic genre. While the Big Moral Theme is backgrounded (if on the premises at all) the concentration is on action, forward progression and putting the viewer through the wringer. "Whatever is going to happen next" is a particularly fertile ground for connecting images in kinetic, inventive ways.

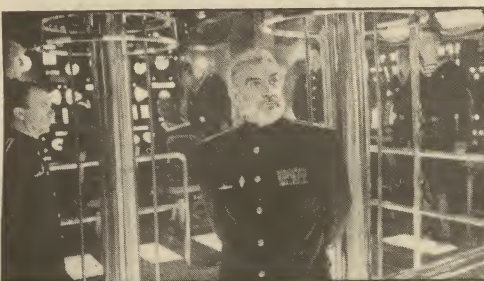
British Mike Figgis' 1988 *Stormy Monday*, set in a noir ideal Liverpool, was a beautifully edited and enigmatic intertwining of four loners (Sean Bean, Melanie Griffith, Tommy Lee Jones and Sting). It sort of fell apart at the end and much material dealing with a Polish jazz band was down-right silly, but all the initial business, before the plots were doggedly set in their tracks, had a gleaming, open-ended mysterious *potential* that was visually hypnotic.

Now comes *Internal Affairs*, Hollywood, Richard Gere and a big budget. It makes little difference that John Alonzo's cinematography is deft and alluring—his craft is at the service of an appallingly repellent foundation. This is a narrative on corrupt and venal Los Angeles cops (so what else is new?) with all the expected

accoutrements of graft, cocaine, hired mayhem, wife swapping, whores in spiked heels and lamé and the worst of all Los Angeles sins—bad tans.

It resembles *The Killer Elite* in that all the homoeroticism is confined to the smarmy police force villains ("See what happens when you suck cock!"). The token lesbian cop gets shot—after being called a "dyke" repeatedly by heroes and villains alike. It isn't so much that the film is rabidly Politically Incorrect as it is that as a movie it is a total shambles: You don't care for a moment what one unappetizing sleazeball will predictably do to another geek as the film trudges on. This is one of those movie experiences that should require shower stalls in the lobby.

Australian Phillip Noyce's



Sean Connery mesmerizes as always in *The Hunt for Red October*.

1989 *Dead Calm* was the riveting shocker of last year. Set on board two boats with a cast of three and a dog, it erupted from almost the word go into a macabre dance of death so gripping that one wouldn't leave one's seat (despite calls of nature, thirst, hunger or the ever-mounting anxiety). Objects became infused with Keatonesque magic, working for you or against you depending on the choreographed context. Thrill topped thrill with volatile frenzy.

Embarrassingly Bad

And lo and behold *Blind Fury*, a movie so bad you feel embarrassed for anyone connected with it, as though they couldn't possibly have fallen on harder times. Hey guys! Why don't we combine a blind Viet Nam vet who's also a Kung Fu Master with a cute lit-



Retread plot for Rutger Hauer, right, and Brandon Call in *Blind Fury*.

tle boy and have them run from gangsters on a cross country chase and gradually come—after some perfunctory preliminary friction—to love and respect one another? Sound familiar? The filmmakers have apparently seen *Midnight Run* and *Rain Man*, too.

Those films may have been trials but not as excruciating as this one. At least Meg Foster gets killed in her one scene and thus is only tainted with one day's work (But what's that she's wearing? A nurse's uniform? In her own home?). The only matter to preoccupy one's thoughts during the course of the movie is the mental stability of those sitting around you. Are their waking hours so crummy that *this* is preferable to being engaged with the world outside these walls?

American Film Institute grad John McTiernan's *Die*

Hard was 1988's ace action jammer to the hilt. Persuasively igniting fears of height, fire, terrorism, anchor newsmen and Bruce Willis, it packed the proverbial wallop in a devastating crescendo of destruction and dread that never let up.

Well-Oiled Exercise

But here we have *The Hunt for Red October*. To be fair, (something I'm always loathe to be) there's more positive here than not and compared to the other two new releases above, it's *Citizen Kane*. A sleek, professional well-oiled exercise that looks like a lot of money has been ingeniously expended—unlike the equally hyped but unwatchable *Batman* (again a debacle for Tim Burton whose previous *Beetlejuice* had so much energy and charm) that looked like poverty row.

(Continued on page 43)

DISCRIMINATING

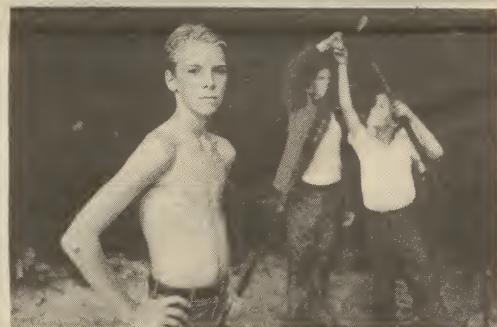


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Lord of the Flies plane crash victim Ralph, played by Balthazar Getty. (Photo: John Bramley)

'Lord of the Flies' Remake

Young Boys Run Free

by Mark Finch

What happens when young men are flung free from the limitations of society? According to *Lord of the Flies*, they run around hunting pigs, act spiteful toward each other and never do laundry.

Lord of the Flies is yet another misconceived remake. There's nothing wrong with remakes in principle, of course (unless they topline Bette Midler); they often afford a good index of social change. The original *Lord* was made in 1963, with the same anger as other British class disclaimers such as *If*.

That first version was a face-against-the-fence misanthropic horror story. Stranded by a plot-driven plane crash, a score of boys get washed ashore a tropical island. As days pass,

they develop deep tans, experiment with face-paint, and wave spears at each others' bottoms. Before this turns to Max Factor and full-blown buggery, they're rescued—but not until after murdering a few in their group.

No Sense of Moral Choice

Flies 1990 starts out scarily enough (underwater, a bloodied pilot floats down from the top of the screen, frightened boys splash about), but a pompous title score dispels the tension. Ralph is still the stuffed-shirt who makes a stand against anarchist Jack's infectious depravity. Piggy's specs still get shattered. But there's no persuasive sense of moral choice; from the start you know Jack would be the

(Continued on next page)

THEATRE

'Stein and Companion' at Rhino

Portrait of an Enduring Love

by Noreen C. Barnes

Under the graceful direction of Iris Landsberg, Adele Prandini and Jane Angeles star in *Gertrude Stein and a Companion*, currently at Theatre Rhinoceros.

Prandini, as Stein, and Angeles, as Alice Toklas, tell more than the stories of their well-known lives, and those well-known who were a part of them. Win Wells' lyric script moves beyond the territory that other works about Gertrude and Alice have covered, and looks at the lives of two women who shared an enduring love—from their perspective.

Set on two levels (one is the plane of past memories, the other that from which Gertrude observes her death) and connected by the famous paintings that hung in Stein and Toklas' home in Paris (excellent reproductions here by set designer Pam Peniston and Nora Lee Scully), the production moves almost seamlessly through time and space.

Agile Transformation

Angeles agilely transforms from Toklas' 30s to 80s and back again, and Prandini recalls the observations of Ernest Hemingway, Picasso and others by becoming them. Both actors capture beautifully the poetry, humor and tenderness that most surely existed between these two extraordinary women.

Flies

(Continued from previous page)

more fun date.

In that typical, late '80s style, director Harry Hook let's his images speak for themselves. He opts for a kind of documentary, costume drama style—like *Club Uranus*, the clothes and the pose say more than anything else. As the costumes become scarcer (discarded, stained, torn), however, the movie becomes more inarticulate. Hook's major achievement is to make pre-teens in soiled Y-fronts seem wholly uninteresting.

As a novel, *Lord of the Flies* never had much to say in the first place: men are beasts. Anyone who's ever been stood up by a date at Zuni's or the Opera House can attest to that. A much more interesting question is why boys and men are so quick to translate upset and anxiety into anger and violence. *Flies* 1990 has no idea, only a metaphor borrowed from Francis Coppola. Priggish American cadets instead of priggish English schoolboys, and a finale full of marines, choppers and combustible vegetation—very Vietnam.

At least *Lord of the Flies* should be getting to the heart of human depravity through physical effects, in a way that makes you sweaty, scared, disoriented. Instead it merely makes its audience irritated with these bratty boys who won't stop whooping and running about. Like any good mother you'll just want to spank the monsters. ▼

Valerie Von's costumes set off Alice's love of Spanish style against Gertrude's comfort and practicality. Joelle Chartier's lighting is as moody and evocative as M.J. Lallo's sound design and original music is subtle, almost subliminal. Out of her ethereal opening theme, "A Rose is a Rose," Prandini is discovered sitting in front of Picasso's portrait of Gertrude Stein, a brief tableau as prologue to the play, which begins on the day of Gertrude's death.

There is gentle, dry wit, matter-of-factness and wonderful self-consciousness in this presentation. As Gertrude's brother Leo, Angeles sputters about the "hemorrhoids" on the walls, referring to the paintings of Pablo Picasso. Prandini's Hemingway adores Gertrude and abhors Alice (the feeling was mutual) and thus he called the two of them "Ger-

trude Stein and a companion." Alice was to Picasso, in contrast, "the Miss Toklas."


Throughout the play is an ongoing exercise in aesthetics, a discussion of the value of endeavors, artistic and literary. Gertrude recognizes the value of the time in which she is living, declaring, "There will never be such things again." And, perhaps there never will. But a sense of that time, and a real appreciation of and giving life to it, are what makes this play, and production, a real jewel, a very clear crystal of work and love.

As Gertrude said, "It was pleasing." And it is. Very. ▼

Gertrude Stein and a Companion
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Adele Prandini, left, and Jane Angeles in *Gertrude Stein and a Companion*. (Photo: Jill Posener)



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Berkeley Rep's 'Virgin Molly'

Going Queer

by David Perry

When the Marines say they're looking for a few good men, they don't, of course, mean homosexuals. But it's no surprise, nevertheless, that some of the men they recruit do turn out to be homosexuals.

Quincy Long's *The Virgin Molly*, in its world premiere at Berkeley Rep, is full of surprises. On the surface, and for about two-thirds of the way, *Molly* is pretty, ah, straightforward. Then, it goes kind of queer. What begins as a comic albeit painfully realistic portrayal of institutional homophobia on the part of the United States military becomes a surreal fantasy of almost questionable taste. Long's writing has a point, but not a very clear one.

There's something frightening about sitting in a mostly heterosexual audience that is laughing at the sadistic and cruel humiliation of "an accused homosexual" onstage. While the Corporal (Charles Dean) makes Private Molly (Stephen Spinella) crab walk, attack his bunk, pretend he's crawling under enemy fire and generally behave like a trained dog—all the while hurling the strongest homophobic epithets imaginable—the Berkeley Rep audience laughs.



Two soldiers flank a Marine private accused of homosexuality in *The Virgin Molly*. (Photo: Ken Friedman)

Still Funny to Mock

You see, it is still funny to hear someone called "faggot," "queer," and "cocksucker," while no one would dream of laughing at "kike," "nigger" or "spic" in quite the same way, or with quite the same enthusiasm. Long is quite right, and accurate, in his portrayal of military hazing—take it from one who went to military school.

Here, the joke is on the audience: ha, ha, look at the silly military establishment and its ineffective obsessiveness regarding sexual orientation. Ha, ha, look at the audience, safe in their assumptions of check book liberalism. Yes, Long is making fun of the marines. "There are no homosexuals in foxholes," and "I hate peacetime. It's only in peacetime when we have time to worry about shit [investigating

homosexuals] like this," are aimed at the military. The play's final moments, in which an effete, brainless recruit accused of homosexuality assumes a messianic transcendence—this is where the surrealism comes in—is aimed squarely at the audience.

Superbly acted, directed and designed, *The Virgin Molly* is a broadside barrage at societal hypocrisy. The Marines are just a vehicle for Long's broader strokes—too broad in fact. However, though his message gets murky somewhere around the beginning of Act II, there is no denying the visceral power of its initial impetus.

The Virgin Molly
Berkeley Rep, 2025 Addison St.,
Berkeley, through March 17;
845-4700

'Mother' is Back

by David Perry

People are still calling Michael Learned, star of ACT's production of *Hapgood*, "Mother." Looking young despite having raised a generation of *Waltons*, as the spy *Hapgood* (code name "mother"), Learned is the single best reason to see Tom Stoppard's love thriller/comedy.

At just shy of three hours long, Stoppard's now almost anachronistic treatise needs a strong central character to keep the whole overblown enterprise from sinking under its own weight. Learned more than fills the need.

Set in Cold War London, *Hapgood*, written in 1988, is being presented at an odd time, one that no one could have predicted. These still heady post-Iron Curtain days make spy thrillers a bit of a yawner. Perhaps in ten years, the genre will be considered with quaint nostalgia. Or, if the far right (which believes the dismantling of European communism is a sly Bolshevik trick) is correct, they will be part of a chorus of "I told you so."

Smoking Out The Soviets

Robbed of its underlying tension, Stoppard's masterful piece must rely entirely on its own self-contained conflict. Mrs. Hapgood of British Intelligence—blond, beautiful and elegantly portrayed by Learned—is trying to smoke out a pair of Soviet twins, masterspies who traffic in information pertaining to a SDI defense system.

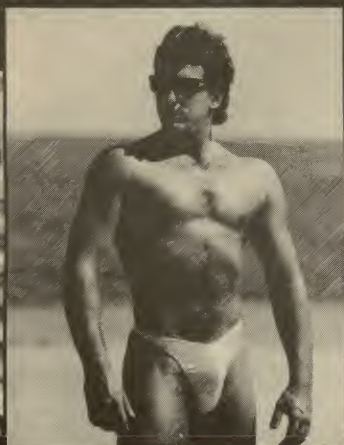
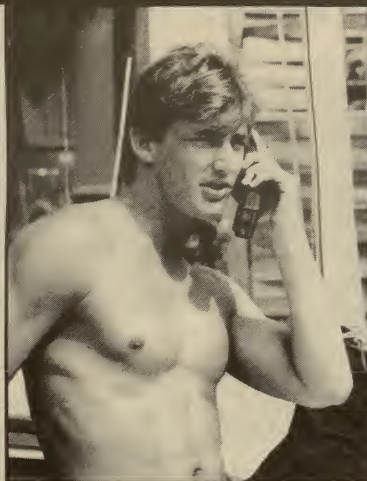
Hapgood's onetime lover, the Soviet physicist Joseph Kerner (Barry Kraft), is unpredictable and difficult to pin down when it comes to national loyalties ("you thought I was a triple (agent)? I was a quadruple, maybe even a quintuple," he says at one point). Through it all, Stoppard's uncanny talent for honest language, right down to the inflection, sweeps us through a maze of double and triple crossed briefcase swappings.

"The art of observing determines the reality," Kerner explains in one of the play's central scenes. Later, Hapgood sums up the ultimate uselessness of spying in the modern age—it's just a job like any other—when she says, "us and the KGB? We're just keeping each other in business. We should be sending each other Christmas cards."

Joy Carlin, ACT associate artistic director, does a fine job of direction. Her staging is fast and even. Ralph Funicello's Chessboardlike grid set is a valuable tool in this regard, as is the usually effective lighting by Derek Duarte and moodsetting music of Stephen LeGrand and Eric Drew Feldman. It's an auspicious and well-honed inaugural production for the newly renovated Stage Door Theater, most recently the Regency III film house.

Hapgood
Stage Door Theater, 420 Mason St., through April 21;
749-2228

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Little Bon Mots in Search of a Point

by David Perry

Zelda Fitzgerald: flapper, writer, schizophrenic widow of F. Scott Fitzgerald, the voice of the Jazz Age she helped invent along with him. Certainly, here is a character ripe for a one person show. *Zelda*, Henry Luce's play based on the writings of Zelda Fitzgerald, is full of rage and dramatic potential, a challenge worthy of the formidable talents of actress Katherine Conklin.

However, ripe it is not. In an intermissionless 90 minutes, we get a bravura performance by Conklin, but little real insight into one of literature's most fascinating enigmas.

Thought by many to be a greater talent than her more famous husband, Zelda Fitzgerald died on March 10, 1948 in a fire at the North Carolina sanitarium where she had lived for many years. She was only 47. Hers was a tragic life of almost Grecian proportions.

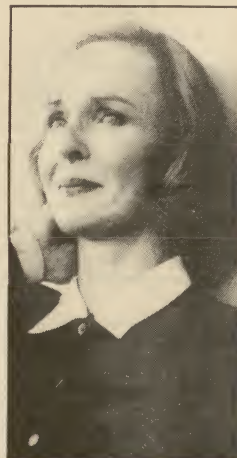
Steady Stream of Consciousness

Set in the psychiatrist's office of Highland Hospital of Asheville, *Zelda* is a steady stream of consciousness while Zelda awaits for an appointment with her doctor. "Is it so important to be sane?" Conklin queries the audience, and

proceeds to give us finely integrated bits and pieces of Zelda's writings.

We learn the infrastructure of the famous couple's marriage, the ins and outs of how they defined the roaring '20s. We learn that *The Great Gatsby* was inspired by a drunken ride home from New

(Continued on next page)



Katherine Conklin plays Zelda Fitzgerald.

(Photo: Robert Francis)

The Conductor Counts

by Philip Campbell

For anyone who still seriously doubts the importance of a strong conductor in a successful symphony concert, the appearance last week by Michael Tilson Thomas at Davies Hall should serve as certain proof. If the orchestra could have risen to the daunting challenge posed by the charismatic maestro, an impressive performance might have become a truly great one.

It is always a treat when the newly appointed principal conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra and music director of the New World Symphony (America's national training orchestra) takes on podium responsibilities in San Francisco. At 44, Tilson Thomas is comparatively young for his international reputation, but he has earned admiration and acclaim with his superior musicianship and attractive stage presence, which seems to be mellowing with maturity. A genuine star quality has replaced most of the former flamboyance. One may not always agree with his interpretive risks, but there is never a doubt regarding their sincerity.

The massive Symphony No. 2 in C minor by Gustav Mahler, often called the "Resurrection," is the real event in live performance, requiring a huge orchestra and chorus and two soprano soloists of uncommon abilities. Chorus director Vance George, as we have come to expect, supplied a

resplendent sound. The basses and altos possessed an especially satisfying depth and conviction. All members performed admirably, though, with exemplary diction and a fine blended quality.

Soprano Marvis Martin and mezzo-soprano Florence Quivar fulfilled their arduous assignments with breathtaking ease and commitment. Martin's silver-edged tone was a wonderful complement to Quivar's velvety smoothness. Emerging from the orchestra, subtly, as human instruments, their glorious voices brought vitality and marvelous sensibility to a performance that had been somewhat spotty until their arrival. Florence Quivar would appear to be following in the grand footsteps of Jessye Norman and the music world is richer for her presence. When will these divas in ascendance storm the opera world in Strauss and Wagner? Stargazers take note.

Spacious View

Tilson Thomas took a



Michael Tilson Thomas

spacious view of the mighty first movement, beginning with an attack of powerful urgency that was sustained well by the cellists, but let down by a scrawny sound from the violins. Mahler allows for rhythmic liberties, this is

music of great emotion and a sense of inevitability proceeds naturally; the players need only respond to a sure conductor's hand.

An unfortunate amount of inexpert response sabotaged much of the leader's direction. Tilson Thomas could be faulted for an excessively slow speed in the scherzo, but the orchestra was to blame for the eventual derailment. At one point, the entire group of second violins fluffed with a mistake that would evoke laughter in a rehearsal, consternation in performance.

For the too frequent moments of poor intonation and thin tone, however, there were saving qualities. One could observe the conductor to see how things should be going and there is such beauty in the score that even a second-rate rendition is better than none at all. With warts and bandages apparent, the performance did have its share of intensity and finesse. The final movement alone was worth the price of admission and the cathartic finale brought almost all the audience to their feet. If I couldn't fully participate in their over-heated response, I could appreciate the tremendous sense of release. The

chorus and the two magnificent sopranos deserved the hearty bravos awarded them.

The program opened with a brief foray into Charles Ives country. Still a musical maverick after all these years, the arguable grand-dad of the American symphonic tradition maintains his position of much misunderstood genius. The choral setting of Psalm 90 is reportedly one of the composer's own favorites. Economically scored for four-part mixed chorus (with brief solo parts for soprano and tenor) plus organ, bells, and low gong it is a lovely piece, moving from gentle pleading and occasionally outbursts to a beatific conclusion.

The San Francisco Symphony Chorus appeared less at ease with Ives's complex treatment of English than Mahler's German, but the part writing is devilishly difficult and they managed to avoid any serious mishaps. The results were a good argument for bringing more Ives to Davies Hall, though it was clear from the empty seats at curtain time (filled after intermission for the Mahler Second), that many patrons are still shy of the uncompromising Yankee composer's sound wall. ▼

Zelda

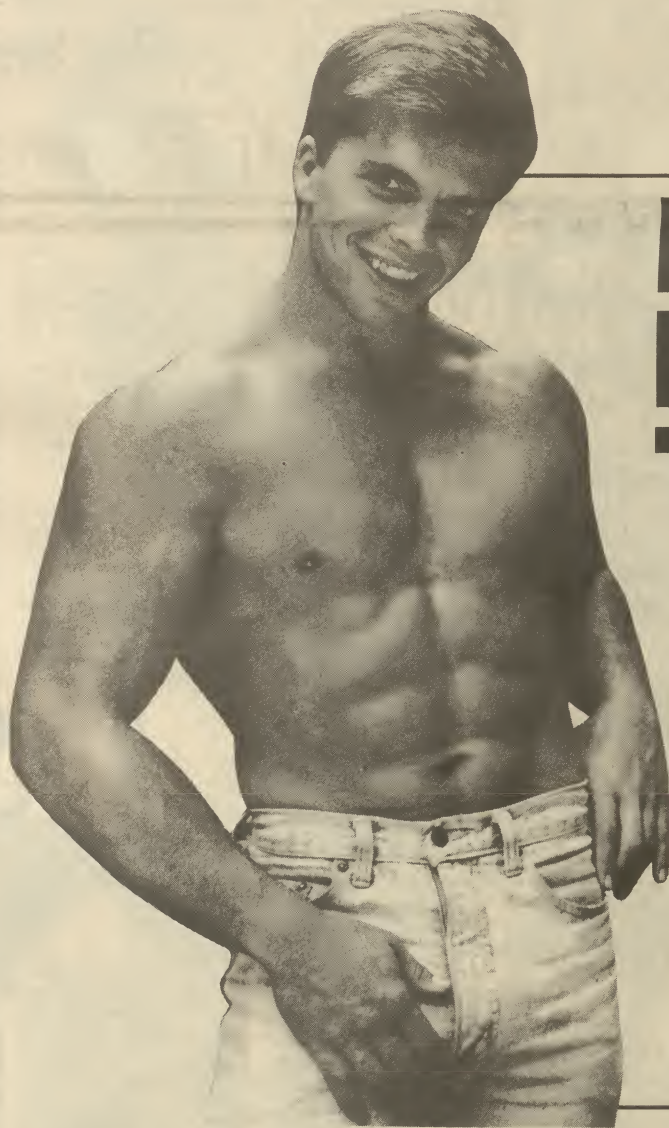
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York one night. Luce's script features thinly veiled references to Fitzgerald's homosexual affair, or at least affection, with Hemingway (he's a pansy with hair on his chest," Zelda wrote of the great author, "as phoney as a rubber check"), and anecdotes about "F. Scotch" Fitzgerald's alcoholism.

The effect is fascinatingly comic, especially since we know that these acid-barbed attacks are Zelda's own words, gleaned from letters, stories and diaries. However, after 45 minutes, *Zelda* begins to repeat herself. We appreciate little bon mots such as "I'm not a monogamist in theory, only in practice" but wish they had a point.

Luce is best known for his *The Belle of Amherst*, the Broadway hit on the life of Emily Dickinson which Julie Harris made famous. Along with *Lillian*, about Lillian Hellman, and *Bronte* based on Charlotte Bronte's life, *Zelda* comprises one quarter of Luce's plays on "famous feminine literary figures." This is certainly an area that needs to be explored. However, though Katherine Conklin delivers a resonant and moving performance, *Zelda* is at best a mixed bag. As *Zelda* says at one point during the play, "it was like a transfusion of light. It was also monotonous."

Zelda
Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St.,
through April 1;
621-4423



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Outspoken Exposé

by David Taylor-Wilson

If the game is Jeopardy, and the subject you've chosen is "Music," and the answer is: "A musical trio of ladies, who with their debut album achieved multi-platinum success, and became the first group in history to have four Top Ten hits from that debut album," there can only be one correct question: "What is **Exposé**?"

Prior to a recent performance in San Jose, the Beat had a chance to chat with two-thirds of Exposé and find out a bit more about the ingredients that go into their recipe for success. Speaking with us after the afternoon sound check were Jeanette Jurado and Gioia.

The Beat: So you're currently on a tour that is...

Gioia: From hell! (laughter)

Jeanette: After this we go to Oregon, then we fly to Hawaii and then Guam.

G: We have a layover in Honolulu.

J: From 5:30 in the evening 'til 11 the next morning, that's our time off in Hawaii! Do you believe it? Actually, Gioia and I will probably find a lot of things to do.

G: No shopping. We want to go out and have some fun. I've got some names of clubs to go to.

J: Last time we were there at a club they had a bikini contest and we were the judges. We were gonna pick some skinny guy with glasses and no body.

G: I went to the mall here [in San Jose] today and the whole mall followed me around, it was amazing. They were placing bets on where I was gonna go next. It was hysterical.

J: We haven't been out dancing in the longest time. We were in a club, and it was three different levels, and we were on the first level, and we said, well, let's go dance. We were just like hanging out, you know, waiting for someone to ask us to dance. Not one person came up and asked us to dance! Then finally when we did start getting attention it was just for autographs.

TB: Your current single, "Tell Me Why," is doing great on the charts right now. I understand it has special importance for you because it deals with problems of gang violence.

G: Especially here in California, that's where it all stemmed from originally. Jeanette came back from California after a break we had taken and she was just going, "You guys, it is so bad out there." She knows a lot of people who are involved, and she was really crushed by it all. We were talking about it and decided that it would make a great song. Maybe somebody would learn something from it. You know, there's a lot of kids who don't watch the news or read the paper, but, music being the international language, we thought it would be a good idea.



Left to right: Exposé members Ann Carliss, Gioia, and Jeanette Jurado.

(Photo: Deborah Feingold)

J: More than anything, kids nowadays are listening to Rap music. And although some of it is really good, and speaks positive, I think the major bulk of it is all negative.

G: Sexist crap!

J: It does everything except be against gang violence, you know. It talks about carrying guns, and doing drugs and being Mr. Kingpin of whatever it is that they're in to. We figured since we do have a large kid following that we definitely should use our position to get to them and teach them.

TB: When the group first came out, many columnists were trying to fix a label on the group. There was everything from Latin American Dance

Pop to Dance Music. In my opinion, the current LP, which is your second album, seems a bit more broad in musical appeal than the first.

J: We'll always be considered a dance group, I think, because of where we came from, and there's really nothing wrong with that, but I think either people like it or they don't like it. If they don't

like it, they're gonna call it "dance" and they're gonna make it like dance is not a good thing, and the critics will say bad things about us.

TB: Up until now, Lewis Martinie has written most of your material.

G: I don't think he's gonna write as much on the third album. But that's because he's got so many other things going. Arista has gotten much more involved. Clive Davis likes to throw in a few songs of his own, as well as use other songwriters.

TB: What's coming up in the future?

J: Touring, touring.

G: Oh! We're also gonna release, "Stop, Listen, Look and Think" to the clubs. It's gonna go to the clubs, if radio wants it they can have it, but we're doing it just for the clubs, because we are a dance group.

TB: So work begins on the third album when?

G: We'll be doing the third album in the fall, and we'll continue this tour until the end of August. We're hoping to have a single out from the new album before the end of the year.

Next Week: The concert review.

"Gay Sera Sera"

by David Taylor-Wilson

Last Tuesday night at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium, the house was packed to the rafters with a melting pot of an audience if there ever were such a thing. The familiar buzz of pre-performance excitement was in the air, and the one phrase I kept overhearing was, "I wonder what **Andy Bell** is gonna wear this time."

As lead singer for **Erasure**, the high drama dance pop band with a synth beat, Bell is as well known for his soaring vocal capabilities as he is for his onstage flamboyance.

And he knows it.

One thing can be said about Bell, he is definitely not a slave to fashion. Either he breaks all molds that pertain to fashion, or he creates new ones while on stage. It's guaranteed that more than a few of the audience's predominantly teenage male fans have scrambled in

the past week to recreate or combine one of the three costume changes **Vince Clarke**, who makes up the other half of this duo, went through that evening.

If you missed out, well, you can take your pick. Outfit No. 1: One-piece body suit with scoop neck completely covered in sequins, blouson jacket with even more sequins and high-top sneakers with white, knee-high athletic socks. Outfit No. 2: Plumed hat, and a Mexican-style peasant dress with glittery silver, red and gold colors. Outfit No. 3: Spandex, one-piece, under a space-suit style vest with exaggerated shoulders, and a space helmet.

Hell, the tickets were worth the price of the fashion show alone.

The performance began with the unveiling of an elaborate stage setup. Part Star

(Continued on page 64)



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Brush Up On Your Shakespeare

by George Heymont

Three of Verdi's greatest operas—*Otello*, *Macbeth* and *Falstaff*—were inspired by the plays of William Shakespeare. While Verdi certainly hit it big with the Bard of Avon, he was by no means the only composer to look to Shakespeare for a strong plot. Gounod, Zandonai, Delius, Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky and Leonard Bernstein all produced variations on a theme called *Romeo and Juliet*. And composers as chronologically distant as Georges Frederick Handel and Samuel Barber have made hay out of *Anthony and Cleopatra*.

When one starts searching through the operatic repertoire for Shakespearean inspiration, one finds incredibly strong pieces of musical theater which are as stylistically diverse as Aribert Reimann's *Lear*, Lee Hoiby's *The Tempest*, and Cole Porter's *Kiss Me, Kate!* (which integrates *The Taming of the Shrew* into its backstage plot). Although Otto Nicolai's *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (first performed in Berlin on March 9, 1849) and Ambroise Thomas's *Hamlet* (which received its world premiere in Paris on March 9, 1868) were performed by two of America's leading opera companies in January, one proved to be a far more stageworthy work than the other.

To B# Or Not To B#

Had it not been for the monumental efforts undertaken by Sherrill Milnes (who knows a good drinking song when he hears one) to have *Hamlet* produced as a vehicle for his talents by opera companies in San Diego, New York, Toronto and Chicago, few people in today's audiences would have had a chance to experience Ambroise Thomas's musical treatment of one of Shakespeare's most famous tragedies. While there are moments when the French composer delivers some stunningly well-crafted moments of music theater—most notably Hamlet's drinking song and Ophelia's mad scene—the libretto by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré takes numerous liberties with the original script. To make matters worse, the extreme romanticism of the French musical style puts a very bizarre feeling on Shakespeare's story of the melancholy Danish prince who is trying to avenge his father's untimely death. Despite the use of Matthew Lata's Supertitles, the production lacked the kind of dramatic punch which could make it rise above the standard historical costume parade.

Using Carl Toms's revolving unit set (originally designed for the San Diego Opera) director Fabrizio Melano did his best to breathe life into the opera. Thanks to conductor Julius Rudel's extreme sensitivity to the French romantic style, certain moments of pageantry—as well as the opera's two great showpiece arias—came off quite effectively. But on too many occasions the evening threatened to implode under its own weight.

Strong musical contributions came from Monte Pederson's Claudius, Felicity Pal-

mer's Gertrude, and Gregory Kunde's Laertes. Unfortunately, Milnes' portrayal of Hamlet was less of a dramatic enigma than continuing proof of why the opera has been relegated to such questionable status in the repertoire. While Milnes made the most of his music, he could not bring much dynamism to a character who is, at best, a manic depressive (the famous baritone also tended to stray a tiny bit off pitch on occasion).

For opera queens who get their rocks off listening to coloratura sopranos performing trills and roulades, Ophelia's mad scene is the most appealing kind of musical candy. Although she started out unevenly, soprano Ruth Welting grew stronger as the evening went on, delivering a finely-sung and rock solid mad scene in the grandest of operatic style toward the end of Act II. Welting's voice is still in great shape and, as she matures, she continues to remind audiences that the great

age of bel canto singing is hardly over and done with.

Take My Wife, Please!

Far more successful than Lyric Opera of Chicago's *Hamlet* was the Washington Opera's new production of Otto Nicolai's *The Merry Wives of Windsor* with costumes by Suzanne Mess and a deliciously clever picture postcard unit set designed by Bob Shaw. Directed by Leon Major with a delightful sense of fun in the Kennedy Center's intimate 1,000-seat Eisenhower Theater, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* offered audiences a well-sung romp and frolic through one of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies.

While particularly strong cameos came from Peter Volpe as the vainglorious Dr. Caius, Richard Croft as a surprisingly stentorian Fenton, Beverly Hochs as the diminutive Ann Page and the hysterically funny Darren Keith Woods as a



Meg Page (Kathryn Cowdrick) and Alice Ford (Sheryl Woods) receive identical mash notes in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

lipping Slender, the strength of Leon Major's production lay in the ensemble work by the principals, particularly Mark Pedrotti's Ford, Eric Johnson's Page and Kathryn Cowdrick's Mistress Page. Kenneth Cox portrayed Sir John Falstaff as a lecherous and amusing bawd (the bass-baritone's characterization of Shakespeare's fat knight was all the more amusing to those who know how painfully skinny this talented American artist is in the flesh).

The opera's final scene in Windsor Forest was a total

delight. However, special credit for making the evening such an artistic success goes to Sheryl Woods who, as Mistress Ford, very neatly tucked the performance into her pocket and walked off with the show. Ever since she gave birth, Woods's voice has been growing by leaps and bounds. When this soprano's impressive and rapidly maturing vocal resources join forces with her strong musical intelligence and extremely appealing stage presence, she offers audiences a potent and pretty artistic package. ▼

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More Sapphic Sleuths

Report for Murder
by Val McDermid, St. Martin's Press, \$16.95.

Hallowed Murder
by Ellen Hart, Seal Press, 230 pp., \$8.95.

by Noreen C. Barnes

As many of us wait for the next volume in the series of our already established favorites in the lesbian detective game—be it the fourth of Katherine Forrest's intrepid Kate Delafield, the next adventure of the delightful Stoner McTavish created by Sarah Dreyer, or the third installment of Mary Wings' "She Came" with the wry Emma Victor—we can survey the activities of two new heroines.

British Val McDermid and American Ellen Hart are both making their debuts as novelists with, respectively, *Report for Murder* and *Hallowed Murder*. Although their works contain a number of similarities, they diverge in crucial respects, affecting one's ultimate enjoyment of these murder mysteries.

There almost seems to be a formula for plot and assemblage of characters, which extends to other works in this increasingly popular genre. For example, the protagonists, whether amateur or professional detectives, are most frequently (Stoner McTavish being the notable exception) abandoned by former lovers, through death or a particularly wrenching breakup, and thus are free to both devote an inor-

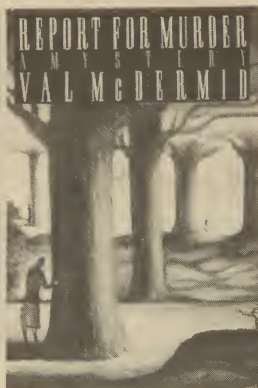
dinate amount of time to sleuthing and finding new lovers.

In *Report for Murder*, McDermid's and Hart's novels, their central characters are in just such a position, and both are accompanied by companions named Cordelia, as they investigate the deaths of women occurring in or near campuses. And both, of course, encounter a colorful cast of characters, each of whom may have a motive for murder.

In *Report for Murder*, McDermid displays a brittle wit and a facility for plot construction. This is the first novel of a former journalist, who is also a playwright, and it does have quite a strong theatrical sense.

Countryside Murder

The story is set in an English countryside school for girls, where a cellist is murdered before performing at a fundraiser to save the institution's athletic playing fields from a local real estate developer. Lindsay Gordon, a Scottish investigative reporter for a tabloid publication, is a self-described "socialist-lesbian-feminist" who is doing a feature about the boarding school to help a friend who is a headmistress at the institution. She



is prepared for boredom, but she is glad for the reunion with her friend, Paddy, a drama teacher who describes her colleagues as:

...like any collection of female teachers. There are the super-intelligent, witty ones; the boring old farts; the Tory party brigade and the statutory radical-that's-me, by the way. And a few who are just ordinary, unobjectionable women.

Lindsay finds a series of "absurdly histrionic confrontations" that she continues to encounter in the first day of her weekend stay at the school spoils her "perspective"—"melodramatic excesses" that she resents because they all concerned or featured the talented but difficult Lorna Smith-Couper, likened to the "Beauty and the Beast rolled into one." But Lindsay finds that things are far from dull when the musician is strangled with her own cello string:

"...the last thing she had expected was to find herself

caught up in a murder and part of her resented the personal inconvenience. She was also aware of her own callous selfishness as she thought to herself: "Well, this is really going to screw up any chance I might have had with Cordelia."

As journalists, both McDermid and her protagonist seem to have been "trained to forget (their) feelings, and do the business"; thus much substance is lost in the focus upon plot. The British vernacular does lend some charm to the work, and McDermid can construct a good story, but does so at the sacrifice of some character development. Ultimately, she is rather like an Agatha Christie with a raised consciousness,

Hart's protagonist finds herself frequently—and disturbingly—at odds with a born-again Christian

and she acknowledges the inescapable Christie influence several times:

"Who knows, she might have the answers to the whole sorry business."

"If you were Hercule Poirot, she certainly would."

"Ah yes, but if I was Hercule Poirot, you wouldn't fancy me, would you?"

Report for Murder is, nevertheless, a quite admirable first effort for McDermid, whose protagonist's *modus operandi* seems to be "...pour me a drink, pass me a woman and a cigarette while I knock out a world exclusive."

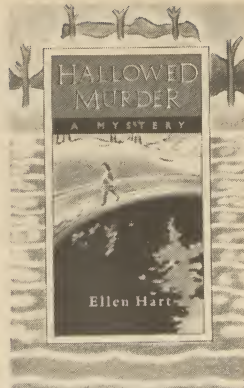
Sorority Homicide

Hallowed Murder is the debut novel of Minneapolis writer Ellen Hart. The book is a hard-to-put-down read that flows easily, is well-constructed in plot and offers some quite varied and fascinating characters.

As the first snow begins to fall in the Twin Cities, Jane Lawless, a lesbian restaurant owner, and her friend, theatre director Cordelia Thorn, become part of the intrigue surrounding the death of a college student. The young woman's murder leads to the discovery of other problems at her sorority house, from theft to accusations of lesbianism.

Jane, who has volunteered her services as an alumna adviser to her old sorority, finds difficulty in maintaining her private life while embarking on some amateur detective work, particularly when the revelation of her sexuality is threatened by religious extremism. Her reestablished tie with the sorority is an undertaking beyond the comprehension of Cordelia:

...when I was in college, I enjoyed the community which living in a sorority offered. If there had been a lesbian sorority, like there is now, I would have joined that...I now want to give my old house the benefit of some of my acquired wisdom."



"Your wisdom?"

"So to speak, yes."

"I see. Then this is a noble cause. A crusade of sorts. Perhaps you see yourself as a kind of Peace Corps volunteer, bringing civilization to this rather primitive enclave of right-wing ideology."

Jane and Cordelia are joined in their search for the truth about Ally Lord's death by the victim's friend, Maggie, the charmingly disorganized house manager of Kappa Alpha Sigma, who finds clothes under her typewriter and prefers to buy new things rather than to resort to cleaning her room in an attempt to find them. Maggie actually takes center stage for a bit of the story, as Hart focuses on the effect of her friend's death, and Maggie's own discoveries in her not-so-sisterly sorority.

Jane finds herself frequently—and disturbingly—at odds with the other alumna advisor, Susan Julian, a born-again Christian who has begun a Bible study group for the sorority and who tells the cautious and closeted Jane:

The sin of homosexuality is a lot like leprosy. At first you don't really notice much is wrong. A tiny little speck on your skin doesn't seem like it could hurt you much. But then it starts to ooze puss, and by then it's too late. The wages of sin is death according to the Bible. I didn't write that, but I believe it.... A homosexual act is like slapping God right in the face! And of course, it leads to other things. Bestiality. Bondage. Prostitution. Rape. Drugs. It's all just around the corner.

Hart has created a story with more clearly defined characters and tighter pacing than has MacDermid. Although the supporting roles stand out more vividly than Jane Lawless herself, Hart is working on a second in the series, and perhaps she can spend more time on developing an already intriguing protagonist, who possesses an interesting past only briefly alluded to in this story. Hart has effectively whetted the appetite for more—about Jane's lost love, her life in England, her high-profile attorney father, her work as a restaurateur (the latter leads to the delicious possibility of her solving a culinary murder ala *Titus Andronicus*; Maggie has already set the stage in *Hallowed Murder* by ordering a shepherd's pie at Jane's pub, "as long as it doesn't have an actual shepherd in it.")

Both of these works offer something for those of us who have become fast fans of the lesbian detective genre, and have been, so to speak, dying for more. ▼

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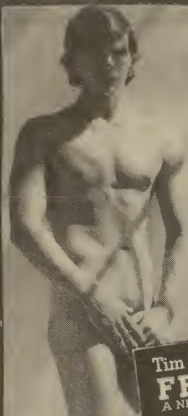
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Panel Talk

(Continued from page 34)

gay and lesbian sexuality comes from the outside world). She then took those attending the panel on an intriguing several-minute exercise in erotic writing.

Writer and videographer Jack Fritscher equates the recording, in both verbal and visual images, of the sexuality of the gay and lesbian communities, to the preservation of the "folk art" of any culture. He observed that straight society appropriates what it wants to from us (while not crediting the creators) and acts against us in the "name of the dysfunctional family."

Stan Leventhal remarked that a greater suppression of pornography would lead to a greater production of it, and the value of gay porn magazines for those whose first (and sometimes only) connection to the gay network are those publications. There was some discussion between Fritscher and Leventhal about the use of the terms "porn" and "erotica," but there did seem to be consensus about the increase in

respectability in the field no matter what one called it.

Stephanie Henderson regarded erotic writing as a way of "honoring who we are" and reiterated Corinne's connection of spirituality and sexuality. She considers erotica as "a place inside us all," a "part of being" and of "being whole."

La Verne Gagehabib spoke of her own "hunger" for lesbian erotic material since she was a teenager, of consuming it, wanting more and of fighting to keep it, leading to her own creation of it.

Activist Writers

In a session on "Writers as Activists," Ayhofemi Folyan spoke of being accused of plagiarism by a teacher when she was 12 for a piece of writing she did, and not finding the necessary "permission" to express herself in words until she took a writing class with Terry Wolverton. It was not until late in life that Folyan learned she was dyslexic and received the necessary help to overcome it, noting that "if you can't write, you can't read."

She found the encouragement to tell the story of her life, to "name the truths of my experience" and to be able to



Tee Corinne, second from left, speaks at "The Future of Sexually Explicit Writing" panel. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

find a healing in the writing of that experience. She considers writing as activism, that "my words count" and that one else has the "right to invalidate others' lives." Folyan also stressed the importance of documenting the past, and of "respecting those who went before."

Stan Persky speculated on some "ways to start" thinking about writing and activism, offering the beginning of ideas presented in a verbal collage. He noted that one's political life came before one's political writing, that "what are gay and lesbian writing?" is really two

questions, and seemed to offer some resistance to an "institutionalization" of gay and lesbian writing.

Sally Gearhart asserted that experience leads to ideology (and writing), and that writing is a "specific illustration" of our lives as lesbians and gay people. And, as a writer of science fiction, she can offer the "visions of the future." Aaron Shurin began his presentation with remarks on the "potential for activism" as "interior" to text, and the attack on "authoritarianism" of linear thinking, syntax and pronouns (particularly gender "control" and ideology) in

language. His approach was interesting but seemed, in some respects, to be a paper for another panel at another conference to which he attached comments (and the word "activism") at the beginning and end to connect it to this panel's topic.

For Amber Hollibaugh, activism is much easier for her than writing, and found her political work the "only way" to deal with the reality of her life. Her work in the sex industry further expanded her political ideology, but she found that her politics prompted the loss of her family, a high price to pay for her commitment. As a lesbian, she also discovered that the left and the early women's movement shunned her as well. To give "full voice and identity" to her work, now involved with AIDS education (working for New York's Human Rights Commission), Hollibaugh found that becoming a writer was a matter of necessity, to "capture" her experience, to "get it out." There remains, however, a tension between the writer and the activist, however, when demonstrations coincide with deadlines, and the solidarity of a march conflicts with the solitary state of writing. ▼

Thrillers

(Continued from page 36)

The nature of submarine movies is partly to blame. There are no good ones. If Douglas Sirk (*Mystery Submarine*), Sam Fuller (*Hell and High Water*) and John Ford (*Men Without Women*) have failed, who's John McTiernan to succeed? (And don't talk to me about *Das Boot*). Claustrophobic space that can only go glug glug glug is inherently uninteresting. Isn't the pace of walking underwater inimical to the thriller?

Perhaps the best of the lot is Delmar Daves' *Destination Tokyo*, not for its action but rather for its benign treatment of love among confined men subtexts. (And if you really want to stretch it, we can include Ridley Scott's *Alien*).

The real problem with the efficient, lightly likable *Red October* isn't the much complained-of confusion (Rex Reed got lost; just take some Dramamine and shut up, will you?) of time and place—that comes with the territory—but the film's incredibly *impersonal* lack of style. Here's a chance to excite with tons of money, the mesmerizing Sean Connery and Alec Baldwin (glad at least he's become a star) and all the freedom in the world and still no chances are taken or extremes met. Of course money doesn't always help—look at David Lynch and *Dune*.

It's as if the studio and producers were breathing down McTiernan's neck to concoct a safety toy tame enough to eventually glide for the airlines and the tube and not ruffle any sensibilities. But the best thrillers—*White Heat*, *Blue Velvet*, *Touch of Evil*, *The Third Man*, *Double Indemnity*—are double-edged conflicts that find us rooting for questionable figures involved in compromising situations. This moral/ethical tug of war instills the split tensions with more lasting frissons than just upfront immediate thrills, something lacking in 1990 so far. ▼



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Assessing Out Write

(Continued from page 34)

man, Dorothy Allison). But the big name, big press male writers (e.g., Edmund White, Armistead Maupin, David Leavitt, Andrew Holleran, Larry Kramer, Quentin Crisp, John Weir) were absent.

Samuel Delaney was invited but couldn't come. Likewise, the founders of the first gay presses (e.g., Jim Mitchell, Paul Mariah, Winston Leyland, Charlie Shively) weren't invited. I'd heard rumors of people being blacklisted. Is that what happened to Boyd McDonald?

On the plus side, it was refreshing to see a conference line-up that had a male/female parity and good ethnic representation. And on the men's side, avant garde young turks like Dennis Cooper, Kevin Killian, Robert Gluck, Patrick Hoctel, Bo Huston, Dave Ford and Thom Jennings (i.e., "my gang") were well represented. So, despite some "holes" (and a registration fee that probably precluded many poor writers), I anticipated a lively conference.

Day One

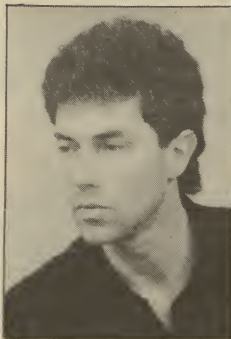
Whatever doubts I had were swept away as soon as I walked into the Cathedral Hill Hotel. Instead of an elitist atmosphere, the air was one of joy and solidarity. I saw old friends. People smiled, hugged. Judy Grahn's keynote address, soon followed by rousing talks by Sarah Schulman and Essex Hemphill on the first plenary session panel, set an inspired, almost ecstatic tone.

Grahn began by saying any gay writer who hasn't done any political organizing is taking a free ride. "Being a writer is anything but an alienated occupation," Grahn said emphatically. "We are standing on the edge of a rapidly dying world and trying to bring a new world to birth."

Grahn equated literature to food and said if you breathe out bitterness, your community will breathe bitterness. But if you breathe healing words, your world can begin to heal. Grahn called poets the mapmakers in this process. "As a feminist I'm not so interested in taking back the night as I am in taking back the world," Grahn said. "And for the first time in my life I am proud."

Ginsberg's keynote tone was more casual. He began by reading a rhymed poem recounting the history of famous same sex lovers. Then he said Jesse Helms and the Heritage Foundation had no moral ground to stand on since they were funded by the tobacco and alcohol industries. The FCC drive for airwave "decency" next came under attack. Ginsberg's basic message was that candor ends paranoia. Writers should give witness to "truth and exquisite accuracy" which are cheerful matters to work on.

The subject of the first plenary was "AIDS and the Responsibility of the Writer." Novelist Sarah Schulman kicked it off by saying recent political developments had



Poet Aaron Shurin

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

outpaced her imagination. In her novel *People in Trouble* she wrote about seven gay men who timorously questioned the position of the Catholic Church on homosexuality. Two years after writing this, Schulman said, 7,000 ACT UP members disrupted a mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

Schulman said when she began her novel she made a list of words she wanted to emphasize and a list of those (like "victim" and "general population") which she rejected. Because words have so much power, a writer's responsibility is to choose them carefully.

Essex Hemphill galvanized the audience when he described the contradictions of home in America. He said it was difficult for him to feel at home in the black community as a gay person but that it was equally difficult for people of color to feel at home in the white gay community. What we had to do was go beyond a "one-eyed, one color sense of community."

Hemphill blasted the sexual stereotypes of black men in the photography of Robert Mapplethorpe. His voice broke as he testified to the pain he felt at the plight of crack babies, AIDS babies, and young black men whose only home was on the street or in prison. By the time he concluded saying "We need to go home before home is gone," the crowd arose in a standing ovation. Tears streamed down the faces of many.

Susan Griffin discussed the relation of social justice and ecology. "As we sever our connection to nature," she said, "we sever our sense of compassion." Griffin said she, like Gore Vidal, suffered from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome which, like AIDS, is an immune deficiency disease. She questioned if radiation and toxic environment contributed to these diseases.



Pat Califia

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

transformation of social reality as wide and deep as the civil rights movement."

Sasha Alyson, of Alyson Press, urged writers to stay with a publisher for at least two books. He said authors who jumped around from press to press helped neither themselves nor their publishers.

The New Narrative workshop was the most theoretical of the conference. Recently this writing tendency has received attention in *B.A.R.*, *Outweek*, *The James White Review* and elsewhere. In general its narrative tends to be framed, fragmentary, cinematic. Moderator Dodie Bellamy gave a brief history of New Narrative starting with its first appearance in *Soup* 2 in 1982.

Dear World editor Camille Roy then read from a letter exchange she's been having with filmmaker Abigail Child. Roy said whenever she wrote about sex she noticed it had a narrative and she wondered why this was.

Robert Gluck read an essay on honesty and story which will appear in the first *Dear World*. Dennis Cooper was unable to attend but a punkish manifesto he wrote was read by Richard Hawkins. Kevin Killian concluded by talking about Sam D'Allessandro's writing with aside comments on critics, editors and pastiche as technique.

It's ironic that a movement that started out by criticizing the elitist avant garde found itself having to defend itself against such objections from its own audience. Some questioners wondered if New Narrative was seeking to do away with story. Another said he felt "left out" by pop culture or intellectual references. But New Narrative isn't doing away with story, it's simply trying to find a more contemporary way of telling stories.

By bridging together so many different kinds of writers (e.g., poets, novelists, journalists, playwrights, critics, etc.) the Out Write '90 conference enlarged the audience for all. The cross-class, cross-race, cross-generation and cross-gender aspect of the conference was also deeply empowering.

At a time when the top echelons of American society are driving towards greater repression and homogenization, the gay and lesbian community has moved to the forefront in the fight against such efforts. We've shown it's not only possible to do this, but that it's possible to do so successfully for the greater health of writing and community alike.

"As a feminist I'm not as interested in taking back the night as I am in taking back the world."

—Judy Grahn

Pat Califia began by saying, "If people say my life is unspeakable, I will speak of it. If people say I'm garbage, I'll make them eat every bite." She discussed censorship within the gay community itself and said the trouble with censorship was that it didn't work. "When you leave a gap in the discourse, it only makes people feel more isolated." Califia also raised the issue of safe sex and drug education and said we needed to teach people how to get high without getting sick.

John Preston, an editor and writer-in-residence at the Portland Maine AIDS Project, said AIDS challenged the existing canons of literature. He described some real-life experiences of PWAs whose stories would be rejected as too melodramatic in fiction because the pain and emotions AIDS draws up are so intense and overwhelming. But people had to write, he said, because writing is a primal need.

In the performance workshop, Kitty Tsui said, "We need to give ourselves name and voice so we can break stereotypes." In the Personal Revelation workshop Carmen de Monteflores said oppression can only survive by reinforcing silence. If one refrain echoed throughout the conference it was the ACT UP slogan: "Silence = Death."

Day Two

The second plenary was entitled "Gay and Lesbian Literature in the Marketplace." S. Diane Bogus said when she started WIM Publications she thought she'd need "bricks, machines and some white men." All she really needed, she discovered, was a business license and a willingness to work. Bogus said it was up to gays and lesbians to reshape society. "We've reshaped heterosexual society in fashion and art," she said. "Now we have to reshape its language and way of thinking."

Michael Denny, a St. Martin's Press editor and founder of *Christopher Street*, said, "The current boom in gay and lesbian publishing is the literary manifestation of a vast

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Openly gay actors Mathias Freihof, left, and Dirk Kummer try to find love in *Coming Out*.

Berlin Film Fest

(Continued from page 33)

ical rape can lead to love. At the *Atame!* press conference, a depressed Almodovar declared that his critics' attacks that the film was a gay fantasy or misogynist were "banal."

Leavitt, when not defending *Atame!*, which he adores, having viewed it five times, has put his well-publicized AIDS book on the back burner and is now concentrating on a book of short stories and an AIDS screenplay for John (Sunday, *Bloody Sunday*) Schlesinger. He was also in town trying to get his "chimes rung," if the occasion rose.

Iron Curtain Gays

A possible chime-ringer whom many gays were courting, at least mentally, was the young Dirk Kummer, star of Heiner Crow's *Coming Out*. This German Democratic Republic flick about the problems of confronting one's gayness in East Berlin, which reportedly will be the SF gay fest's opening night presentation, was actually made in that repressed city before the Wall came down.

Although conventional in style, its depiction of the then current Communist bar scene is startling. It's sort of like being in a time warp and visiting the New York or San Francisco gay scene in the '50s, or New Jersey in the '80s. Lots of drag queens and suicidal angst—and not a developed bicep in view.

San Franciscans Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman were also in Berlin for the European theatrical debut of their documentary, *Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt*. At the initial screening, there was nary a dry eye in the house.

Afterwards the audience was to be bussed to the Rathaus Schöneberg to view quilt patches, including Rock Hudson's. However, when the gay boys left the theatre, they were greeted by 500 protesters with signs, screaming unintel-

ligible epithets, and about 20 police cars. Rob and Jeffrey were relieved to discover this was an Armenian protest, and the group had apparently picked the wrong theatre.

Four from Rosa

Rosa von Praunheim, the auteur of *A Virus Knows No Morals* and *Army of Lovers* or *Revolt of the Perverts* was dressed up in what he called his hemorrhoid costume. The half red/half black affair actually looked like parts of the lower and upper intestines.

"It's a metaphor for the two Berlins," Rosa explained, although neither he nor the full-lipped actor, David Wilms, who was sewn into the costume with him, could quite explain how. Nevertheless, the two became the most photographed *objet d'art* of the evening.

Rosa, it should be noted, had more films in the festival than any other director—four. His emphasis though was on his two AIDS documentaries: *Silence = Death* and *Positive*.

The first, which will screen in San Francisco in June, features Wojnarowicz and the late Keith Haring, details how gay artists are using their talents to educate the public and fight the government's apathy. The latter captures how New Yorkers are combating the AIDS epidemic.

The Lesbian Directors

Back at the Film Festival's Center, where all the attendees pick up their tickets, garner info, or just nosh on cold schnitzel, Lisa Alter was almost running through the halls, pleasantly, but determinedly, insisting, "I'm the festival's lesbian director." She was pushing her *No Need to Repent: The Ballad of Reverend Jan Griesinger*. Ms. Griesinger is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, a vocation which has not thwarted her feminist or lesbian tendencies.

A few halls down, Lucy Winer was declaring herself the lesbian director. Her past documentaries include *Rate It X* and *Silent Pioneers*, the flick about aging gays. Her first fiction feature, which is what she was hawking, is *Tales of an Exhausted Woman*. "It's a very bizarre comedy about a woman who wants to become an inanimate object. It's autobiographical," she says.

This film, though, doesn't have any overt lesbian tones.

"No, no. You could say this," she tells me. "It's a piece about feeling totally other than the rest of the world. It's a piece

about alienation, and it is a piece about prejudice handled in comic terms."

Winer's next project is a musical about death.

Surrounded by all this celluloid, some of us got hungry for video tape. (Quick! I need a fix of Charles Nelson Reilly.) Our appetite was sated by the Video Fest '90. On one special night curated by Steve Gallagher for the New York Foundation for the Arts, many gay vids were shown, including Tom Rubnitz's *The Faeries* (a parable about two sisters, one who spits out flowers and jewels whenever she chatters unlike her wicked sibling who coughs up toads) and his *Summer of Love/Art Against AIDS*.

Awards Night

When it came time for the awards, gay films were not forgotten. In the general competition, *Coming Out* won a Silver Bear (though to a few boos from straights in the crowd) and *Common Threads*. Later, the Golden Teddys were announced, awards voted on by various gay professionals and heads of gay film festivals.

Best film went to *Coming Out*. Best documentary/essay went to *Tongues Untied*, a powerful, yet witty, look at the



Rosa von Praunheim's *Silence = Death* shows how artists vent anger about AIDS in their work.

gay black community. Best short went to Constantine Giannaris' *Trojans*, an erotic look at the life and work of Konstantin Kavafy, a 19th century Greek poet. A special award went to Rosa von Praunheim, Phil Zwickler and David Wojnarowicz for their AIDS documentaries.

Later that night at the huge gay community center, known as the SchwuZ, a video party and drag queen gala performance was held to honor the gay winners. Believe me when I say that not since the Cockettes has drag been so well respected and worthy of respect.

Michael Lumpkin announced the awards once again and the prizes were doled out: a sweatshirt, a torn T-shirt, and a pair of briefs, all with teddy bears emblazoned on them. Bev Straganov, the emcee, who had 15 fashion and hairdo changes throughout the evening—including the world's largest earrings, summarized the evening and herself best when she sashayed across the stage and moaned with a shoulder and butt wiggle, "You all know this goulash." I and the other foreigners present didn't, but we all promised to be quick learners. ▼

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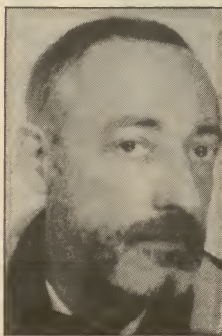
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Manfred Salzgeber

Portfolio

(Continued from page 33)

Never, Never Letting Go" over an appropriate jerk-off scene.

Brian Weil, who does volunteer work with HIV-positive infants in a New York hospital, pictures one of those babies. Weil uses a very small camera with hypersensitive film and no flash to capture a grainy effect and emphasize a communal rather than individual spirit. William Klein centers a kissing male couple in the fury of an ACT UP demonstration at the Atlanta Democratic Convention.

Also included are works by Sarah Charlesworth, John Coplans, Jimmy DeSana, Horst P. Horst, Larry Johnson, Jeff Koons, Annie Leibovitz, Robert Mapplethorpe, Joel Meyerowitz, Herb Ritts, Andres Serrano, Joel-Peter Witkin and many others.

Fundraising Project

"The Indomitable Spirit" is the central fundraising project of a group named Photographers + Friends United Against AIDS. The curator, Marvin Heiferman, is known internationally for his books and exhibits. Heiferman recently talked about the experience of putting this exhibit together.

"I was asked to curate this show about 18 months ago," he says. "Personal experiences with AIDS certainly had a lot to do with my saying 'yes' right away. All of a sudden I was presented with an opportunity that meant something to a part of my life which doesn't usually get addressed at all in the work I do. Very close friends have died, and lots of them, and lovers.

"One friend, Dennis Florio, who was a picture framer I had known for 12 years, died about a year ago. When he became ill he went through an incredible transformation—from being a wonderful, smart-assed person to someone whose illness gave him a mission in life. He felt it was his responsibility to help people understand their own inner resources. He felt very strongly about the whole issue of empowerment.

"That was weighed against the Nicholas Nixon and Rosalind Solomon exhibi-



Annette Lemieux, *Apparition*, 1989. Chromogenic development print (Ektacolor), 20x24 in.

tions. It's important for people to understand what AIDS can do, physically. But the pictures had nothing to do with the experience the people in the pictures had had. I've seen catalogues for a number of other exhibits around the country which reacted against the victimization and objectification.

"I'm a willful curator in terms of having a very specific and quirky point of view. But it would be hubris on my part to come up with 'the' way to do this show or 'the' answer. The project is an educational project, an art project and a fundraising project. I had to be careful that we'd be able to raise money. So it was basically putting together a who's who list in the photographic world and soliciting people.

'Interesting Risk'

"The Indomitable Spirit" idea was something Joseph Hartney had come up with

earlier," Heiferman says. "My initial response was that it was terribly sentimental. After thinking about it a lot, we thought that it would be taking a risk, but an interesting one, to say to people, 'what we'd like you to think about, in tandem with AIDS, is the notion of the strength it takes to be living in this time.'

"The artists' and photographers' responses were wild," the curator says. "People were very happy to give. The Starn Twins had already given 30 pieces to AIDS projects and others were also always giving, while people like Irving Penn had never been asked to give anything. He gave one piece for the show and four others to raise some money.

"Some of these people have been very directly involved with people with AIDS. There were a couple of people who knew no one with AIDS. One of the interesting things to see

is photojournalists, whose normal response is to get an assignment and go out and do something, racking their brains to figure out what the right picture was going to be. Artists using photographic material who are conceptually oriented probably had the easiest time.

"There was not a lot of curatorial intervention. In a couple of cases I picked out the work, but 95 percent of that show represents peoples' own selections. Everyone involved had a different point of view and experience and different levels of passion. It seemed that all of those responses should be valid, even the ones that I might not like, personally."

Keeping Things 'Positive' Proved Difficult

In his original letter to the artists, Heiferman suggested that they attempt to "keep things positive, if possible," but, he says, "one of the things we found out as work came in was that that was difficult for people. A lot of the work had a dark side to it, personal and sincere. So the whole exhibition was guided by what people gave us.

"One successful piece in the show [and catalogue] is the Barbara Kruger, because it

There's something so open about that kid, completely vulnerable.

"Larry Clarke's triptych is really extreme, pushing it. There are two kind-of-nice pictures with this kid in three-quarter profile that are kind-of-sexy. And in the center this kid is sitting in his underwear in front of heavy metal posters with a gun in his mouth. This picture makes people very uncomfortable. AIDS and teenage sexuality is a subject that people are afraid to touch.

"We thought long and hard about which organizations would benefit from the sale of this work. The limited edition portfolio is, in fact, the largest money-making part of the project. Since the project deals with human reactions, we wanted the money to come down to personal levels. AMFAR both raises money and channels it, and we're asking that the money be used for community-oriented programs.

"People who are making art, I think, are more aware now of what their work does or doesn't do in the world," Heiferman concludes. "A lot of people are making work which is more socially engaging. That has certainly been a trend in the last couple of



Ann Meredith with her mother Lillian, 1987. Silver gelatin print, 31½x44½ in.

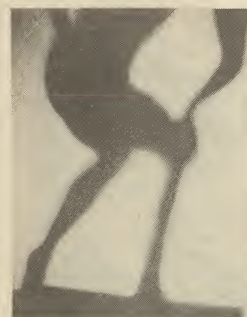


Richard Prince, *Untitled*, 1983. Chromogenic development print (Ektacolor), 20x24 in.

deals with the emotional issues very clearly, in terms of the vacillations which are heightened when we're under stress or ill. I thought it was great. And the Ann Meredith piece, from the documentation she's been doing of women with AIDS—the portrait of the mother hugging the daughter. It's a strong piece in terms of subject matter—it's not the greatest photograph ever made, yet it's as good as anything in the project.

"Another wonderful one is the Walter Looss photograph of his son. Looss has probably been the most famous sports photographer for the last couple of decades—he also did last year's *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue—and for 'The Indomitable Spirit' he should have given us a photograph of some guy jumping the hurdle.

years, and I think there's a direct relationship to the AIDS crisis."



Bruce Weber, *NYC, Studio*, 1986. Silver gelatin print 20x24 in.



Jan Groover, *Untitled*, 1989. Chromogenic development print (Ektacolor) 20x24 in.

Bay Area Reporter Sports & Fitness



SF Hotshots race onto floor as Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence cheer on. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

SF Teams Look Good In Warm Up

by Joe Nelson

Each of the three basketball teams preparing to represent San Francisco in the third Gay Games came through with significant victories this past weekend.

On Saturday, March 10, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence sponsored an evening of basketball at Kezar Pavilion. The SF Slammers women's team opened the event with a well-fought contest against their counterparts from Los Angeles. The Slammers coasted to an early lead with a 27-18 advantage at the break.

The Los Angeles team gained momentum in the second half, but ended up losing to the Slammers by a single-point difference of 39-38. Alice Butler led the Slammers with 15 points and Anne Banks and Liz Ringrose each had six. Joyce Rotherman put in 12 and Tracy Burns had 13 for the Los Angeles women's team.

The Hotshots men's team faced the Long Beach Lancers, a team which featured six-foot-six inch Steve Perry. The star center had a magnificent game, scoring 21 points. However, the Hotshots managed a 32-28 lead at halftime. The

Hotshots' final winning margin of 54-42, did not reflect the actual difference in talent between the teams as the Lancers are a younger and much faster team that shows great potential. The Pacers' Steve Moore lead all scorers with 24 points. Michael Mazgai had eight, Roosevelt Winchester put in seven and Larry Cuniffe had six.

In the third and final warm-up match on Sunday, the Lancers played a much better game before finally losing to the talented Pendulum Pacers by the score of 74-73. Ty

Titsworth of the Lancers had 30 points, including seven three-pointers. Steve Perry had 16 for the Lancers, Mike Gray scored 17, John Wood tallied 12 and Steve Moore, Darrell Morgan and Tom Naldoza all scored eight each. The first two games were played at Kezar Pavilion before 700 people in a benefit for Team San Francisco. The last matchup was held at the Collingwood Gym before close friends and lovers. All three San Francisco teams look like they're ready to go for the gold in Vancouver.



The Slammers celebrate their win over Los Angeles. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Pacers Coast to Easy Victory

by Joe Nelson

In one of their easier efforts of the season, the Pendulum Pacers beat the 3-4 Northern Telecom team handily. The final score was 62-50, but the Pacers' lead hovered at near 20 points most of the last half.

The Pacers controlled the game from the outset, taking an early 11-3 lead. That lead expanded to a 35-22 margin at halftime. The Pacers found it easier to defend against this opponent, since it was apparent that Northern Telecom had only two real offensive threats.

Nearly every Pacer scored, and the playing time was more evenly spread this game

among all of the players. The final margin of 12 points was not representative of the real difference in quality between these two teams. The Pacers were led by Mike Gray with 11 points. Steve Moore and Mike White each put in 10. Ray Sears and John Wood each contributed nine points.

The Pacers now stand alone in 4th place with a 5-3 record. Four out of the 13 teams will make the playoffs. Friday night, March 16, the Pacers' next opponent is the winless MCI team. The game is at 6:30 p.m. at 100 Collingwood St.

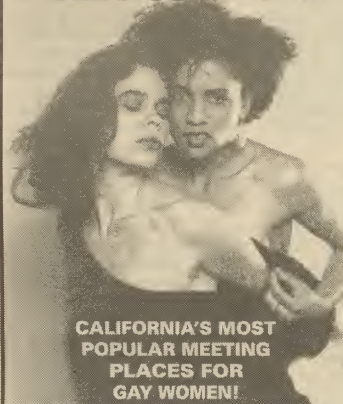
The following Thursday, the Pacers play the Longshore-



Pacers' Steve Moore (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

men's Union representative team at 6:30 p.m.

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Trophies, Triumphs

by Jerry R. DeYoung

For openers, a great big bouquet of candid kudos to the recipient of this year's Cable Car Best Bowler of 1989 Award, J.C. Halstead. J.C. bowls on several Tavern Guild Leagues and has been riding the winning crest in each of them for many seasons. He certainly epitomizes the vital spirit of gay league bowling in San Francisco.

Ma's Kids of the TGThursdayBL won all four points in its first place, three-game, tie breaking roll-off with the Choyce Meat team. Could Jonathan Lee's masterful handling of his new finger-tip ball and his first seasonal 200+ game (210) have had anything to do with the sweep? Quite likely, I would suggest.

A high achiever of the TGWednesdayBL is Marion Gold of the Wee Bowls Wah Bowls team. Marion, who has a 114 average, recently bowled an astronomical 198 game. Considering her modest average, this achievement resides in the region of fantastic, but when one considers that Marion is in her 70s, the feat then migrates to the realm of astonishing.

Yet another dedicated bowler not content to rest upon her already abundant laurels is Lynn Wood of the IGBO/GG's Mixed Fruit. On March 8, Lynn dexterously danced up to the lane and deftly picked up the very difficult 2/5/8/10 split.

Also on March 8, Ernie Wilson of the CUinBC team was making out his check for the evening's bowling fee. He inadvertently wrote on the "Pay To" line, "Gay Games." Upon noticing his error (it should have been made out to IGBO/GG League) he also noticed that the pre-printed check number in the upper right hand corner of the check was none other than 1990, the year in which Gay Games III takes place in Vancouver. Was there an unseen hand involved here?

Well, the hands that guided the balls for the 200+ and 600+ games may have been visible, but they, nevertheless, were surely performing some invisible lane magic:

TGMondayTrios 3/5 - Week 19: Jeff Hettmansperger (206) 267 (648); Tom Marquart (180) 232; J.C. Halstead (190) 230, 207 (602); Richard Alaimo (174) 220; John Johnson (163) 217; Nathan Hauser (197) 203, 216, 204 (623); Jack Redding (140) 203; David Arnold (191) 201, 201 (601); Lew Cordero (162) 200.

TGMondayBL 2/26 - Week 18: Don Gambell (196) 243, 268 (672); Nathan Hauser (196) 268, 223 (650); Bob Mack (190) 257, 201 (640); J.C. Halstead (190) 225; David Arnold (190) 231, 223, 205 (641); Jeff Hettmansperger (205) 221, 204, 213 (638); Richard Alaimo (172) 208, 213 (600); Peter Bassford (172) 210; Frank Rauch (170) 210; Ralph Osborn (139) 205; Don George (184) 202.



Call Mal Garcia about San Jose tourney.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

TGWednesdayBL 2/28- Week 21: Robert Mack (189) 265 (634); Kevin Ahart (180) 234 (607); Timothy Benton (188) 224, 203; Ron Squires (161) 223, 211 (616); Russell Beck (173) 221; Kevin Schwabe (214) 219; Jerry Pepper (160) 212; Ernie Wilson (172) 211; Tom Sipple (186) 206; Dave Lilly (182) 202; Darrell Haven (177) 200.

TG-IGBO/GG-BL 3/1 - Week 22: Tom Marquart (180) 257; Robyn Trost (180) 222; Ron Squires (169) 210; J.C. Halstead (190) 206, 200; Kevin Schwabe (213) 202; Doug Litwin (184) 200.

TGThursdayBL 2/15 - Week 21: J.C. Halstead (194) 236 (606); Donald Fritsche (175) 231, 204 (603); Mark Platis (174) 230; Frank Fensterer (182) 224, 214; Glen Terrio (160) 213; Pete Watters (153) 212; Jonathan Lee (146) 210; Daniel Becker (157) 204; Ben Dedoniso (177) 203; Tim Mulvenon (193) 202; Stanley Wickham (145) 202; Phil Lewis (161) 201; Jeff Collins (152) 201.

(Continued on page 52)

Three Near Misses

The fifth week of play between the S.F. Pool Association's 32 teams saw three matches end just one game short of the elusive 16-0 shutout. Comparable to the 300 game in bowling or the no-hitter in baseball, the four-quarter sweep in league play is very rarely achieved.

The White Swallow Hunters have a strangle hold on Division I and were hosting a team that was expected to offer resistance from Park Bowl. The visitors were hobbled by the absence of their star player, Ching Ng, and only part timer, Bill Walantas, prevented the sweep as he claimed his first win of the year vs. David Lee. Perfect for the Hunters at 4-0 were Jack Dunbar, Brandon Bridges and league individuals leader, Bernard Bayaca, who weighs in at a hefty 17-1.

Division II results revealed its parity with three 9-7s and a 10-6, resulting in just a five-game spread between fourth place Uncle Bert's Barflys and

first place White Swallow International. With the onset of interdivisional play in the season's second half, the Divisional Title should be up for grabs in Week 15.

Cinchseerly Yours made the sparks fly in Division III as they courteously bullied Pilsner Shill to a 15-0 rout before Pilsner Captain Gerlie Mendoza snatched the final game from her counterpart Jim Dreer. Dennis Healy and Donna Blow both rang up 4-0s for the team which should produce some Most Improved Player candidates at season's end.

Cinchseerly's success pulled them within two games of Division leaders, Overpassers, who narrowly avoided a major upset as they escaped Special Effects, 9-7. Jim Russo, league leader in table runs, plunged downward in the standings from a 1-3 off-night and only Overpassers part-timer, Chuck Numbers fared well as he con-

(Continued on page 52)

Sports Calendar

Team SF

May 31 is the last day to register for Gay Games III. Fee: \$54. Forms at Fleet Feet, 2308 Market and Hoy Sports, 1632 Haight.

SF Slammers

Women's basketball practice Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at The Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. Susan, 824-4697.

Men's Basketball Organization

Friday, Mar. 16: Pendulum Pacers vs. MCI. Thursday, Mar. 22: Pendulum Pacers vs. Longshoremens' Union. All games at 6:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Community Center. Practice on Sundays, 6-8 p.m., at same location. All levels welcome. Tony, 621-2710.

SF Women's Business Bowling League

Bowl Sundays, 6 p.m. at Park Bowl, 1855 Haight. Ann, 337-6721.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club

Tuesday and Friday practices, 7-9 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels welcome. Gene, 821-2991.

SF Wrestling Club

Workouts: Mar. 22 and Apr. 7 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All forms & styles of wrestling; all ages, weights welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.

Volleyball Club

Sundays, 8 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels welcome. Mike, 626-4743.

Gay Volleyball

Every Sunday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the school yard at 18th St. & Deharo. All welcome, including beginners. Jay, 864-0257.

Bay Area Racquetball Club

Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Schoeber's Athletic Club, South SF. All skill levels welcome. Wref, 626-7758.

Gay Tennis Federation

Monday, Mar. 19: Monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Charpe's Grill, 131 Gough, SF. Michael, 431-1721.

Birds of a Feather Women's Badminton

Women's practice on Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at French American School gym, 200 Buchanan. Open badminton for men and women on Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., at Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. Pat, 626-4950.

SF Spikes

Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at West Sunset Soccer Fields, 40th Ave. & Ortega, and Thursdays at 8 p.m. at Moscone Field, Chestnut & Laguna. Carlo, 821-4248.

Saga North Ski Club

Mar. 10-18: St. Moritz, France. SAGA, 995-2772.

X-Ta-C Cross Country Ski Club

Mar. 16-18: Weekend Tahoe ski trip. Also, an all women ski trip this month. Jim or Trudy, 995-2736.

Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team

Sundays, 10 a.m.-noon, at King Pool, 3rd St. & Carrol. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30-9 p.m., at Hamilton Pool, Geary & Steiner. Laurie, 255-9091, or Johnny, 626-0561.

SF Water Polo

Practices Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturday mornings, 9-10:30 a.m., at Coffman Pool, corner of Visitation and Hahn, SF. Men & women of all skill levels welcome. John, 621-07831.

SF Hiking Club

Saturday, Mar. 17: Mt. Wittenberg, Earthquake Trail, Miwok Village, Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Leader Jim Gordon. Meet under big Safeway sign, Market & Delores, at 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch, canteen, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Shared cost per car: \$6. Jim, 431-3854, or Clyde, 285-1260.

SF FrontRunners

Sunday, Mar. 18: Paddy's 3-mile Hangover Run. Meet at St. Patrick's Church, 756 Mission btwn 3rd & 4th St. Tuesday Fun Runs: 6:30 p.m., Ferry Bldg, Embarcadero; no-host dinner follows. Thursday Fun Runs: 6:30 p.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park; no-host dinner follows. Sunday Fun Runs: 10 a.m., location to be announced. Rod, 621-2213.

EastBay FrontRunners

Saturday, Mar. 17: Lafayette—Moraga Trail, Walnut Creek at 9:30 a.m. Roz, 939-3579, or Greg, 865-6792.

Long Runners

Sunday, Mar. 18: 20-mile Run. Dave, 621-1380.

SF Track & Field

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. and Sundays, 10:30 a.m. at SF State University track, 1600 Holloway. All skill levels welcome. Rick, 626-8784.

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Golfer Nancy Warren Prepares for Gay Games III

Former 'Tomboy-Sporto-Kind-of-Kid' Switches Game But Stays the Same

by Kitty Tsui

I first met Nancy Warren about three years ago when she was organizing for Team San Francisco. She was a basketball player who had started the Slammers team with the intention of going to Gay Games III. She was bright, friendly and enthusiastic, and when we reconnected last week, I found her still all of the above.

Warren will be going to her first Gay Games this summer, but not, as it turns out, to compete in basketball. She dislocated her knee and severed some ligaments last year, and had to have major reconstructive surgery, so she's switched to golf.

This athlete grew up as a "tomboy-sporto-kind-of kid," and started playing golf with her father when she was about six years old.

"I adore golf," she told me last week. "It's a personal challenge. In basketball you are playing as part of a team, relying on others, so you have no control over how the game turns out. In golf it's all you. Either you play a great game or you don't and you only have one person to blame—yourself."

In Vancouver the golf competition will run for three days. Competitors will play 18 holes each day, a total of 54 holes. An 18-hole game takes approximately four hours, so it's a lot of swinging.

Supportive Family

Warren came out to her family in 1978 and is fortunate that they are supportive of her and of her work in the gay community. She was previously on the Team San Francisco board of directors and worked on the Apex Awards. This year she won a Cable Car

Award for "Outstanding Contribution to Athletics." Originally, Warren's family wanted to go to Vancouver to "see what this thing was that I was working on," but instead made a decision to give her \$1,000 to help her train and participate in the Games.

To prepare for competition, Warren is undertaking a varied training regimen. She goes to the driving range at least once a week to work on her swing and also goes to the golf course to play. Warren recently returned from a trip to Arizona, where her father has a driving range in the backyard of their vacation home. The two set up a video camera and filmed her swings. Then they critiqued the tape and went back out and practiced over and over.

There are many myths about golf and golfers that Warren would like to dispel. First is the notion that golf is a sport for "old retirees."

"My whole family plays and it's something that's brought us closer," Warren says. "For me personally, it's something I can excel at in spite of my knees and it's something that I can play forever. Golf keeps me outside, keeps me healthy and active."

Left Women's Weekend to Golf

For Warren, golf is an exciting, challenging and competitive sport. She laughed heartily when she recounted a story about some friends kidding her years ago when she left Women's Weekend at the

Russian River to go play holes of golf. Now many of her friends who are in their mid-to-late 30s and "aren't going to be playing rugby too much longer" are looking for an activity that is fun and group-related. After an introduction to golf, those same friends are buying starter sets!"

For the beginner, lessons either with a friend who plays or with a pro are advised. In terms of equipment, one can start with a set of three clubs. The basic and most important lesson is learning how to swing a club correctly. Golf videos are also available for the novice or the weekend player who wants to improve his or her game. Like tennis, golf has a long tradition and a set of etiquette that is as important as learning the stroke.



Nancy Warren

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

According to Warren, golf is still a male-dominated sport so she is forming a group called the Double LGPA which stands for "Laughing Lesbians Playing Golf A Lot." It will actually be a phone list of women golfers who are looking for others to play.

At the conclusion of our conversation, Warren said, "Hopefully this chat will clear up some misconceptions. You don't just sit around and hit the ball. You can walk for miles and get a lot of exercise." ▼

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Gay Games Chorus Looking for Singers

Singers are needed for the Celebration '90 Festival Chorus, scheduled to perform at the opening and closing ceremonies of Gay Games III.

The Celebration '90 Festival Chorus is open to gays, lesbians, and their parents and friends. The group is striving for an international mix in membership, as well as a balance in voice-part and gender. Some previous choral experience is preferred.

The chorus has received endorsement and support from the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA), the Celebration '90 Board of Directors in Vancouver, the Colorado Athletic Exchange, and the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. For organizational and financial purposes the Celebration '90 Festival Chorus is a special project of the Denver Chapter of Parents FLAG.

Deadline for registration is June 1. To register or for more information, contact, Celebration '90 Festival Chorus, Box 61388, Denver, CO 80206, (303) 331-2306. ▼

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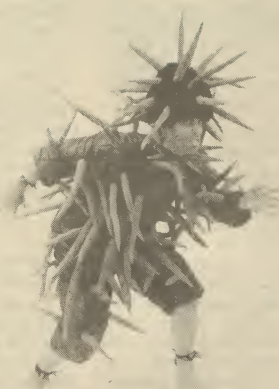
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THIS WEEK



• **Miracles of the Flesh:** A new collection of wickedly irreverent adventures and disasters of the human body by Hank (Pelissier) Hyena. Mar. 22—Apr. 14, plays Thu-Sat. at 10:30 p.m. 8-10. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St./Folsom, SF. 626-9196.

FRIDAY 9

- **I-Beam:** Chris Isaak, The Diablos. 10 p.m. \$13 adv. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- **Screw:** DJs Lewis & Mike, crucial music alternative space, videos. Beer pitchers \$5. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1. 496 Guerrero/14th St., SF.
- **El Rio:** DJ Carlos Grant (5-8 p.m. Happy Hour), DJ Peggy Key (10 p.m.-2 a.m.). No cover. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Abundant Fuck Publications Benefit Performance:** Performers and writers actively resisting the dominant death culture with creative practice. Mar. 16 & 17 at 8 p.m. \$5-15. New College of California, 777 Valencia/18th St., SF. 550-9764.
- **Sub Cinema's "Body in Extremis":** *Rite of Love and Death* by Yukio Mishima; *The Dead Man* by Peggy Awesh & Keith Sanborn; *Observations of Certain Sensations* by Stefan Cluver. 9 p.m. \$4. Galerice Cine Cal, 576 Vallejo, SF. 296-1152.
- **Women's Video Night:** "Stage Door," 7:30 p.m. at MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.
- **Who Are Those People Anyhow?:** San Jose State University Gay & Lesbian Video Exposition to educate straight peers. Student Union, Art 133, SJSU campus. (408) 924-6254.
- **Lesbian & Gay Parents/Marin:** Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Topic: Child development & parenting. First Presbyterian Church, 1510 5th St., San Rafael. 457-1115.
- **Gay Men's Group Oil Massage:** Touch & be touched. 7:30-10 p.m., arrive by 7:30 p.m. \$10. 552 Castro B, SF. Bruce, 626-2026.

SATURDAY 17

- **El Rio:** Zsa Zsa House, Midnight Radio. 10 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Colossus' St. Patrick's Day Green Party:** Live appearance of video stud Storm, green jello wrestling with drag queens and body boys, and snake charmers. After hours House/Urban/Funk/Disco dance club. Doors at 9:30 p.m. \$10, 21+. 1015 Folsom/6th St., SF. 431-BOYS.
- **Continuum—HIV Day Services Benefit Show:** Presented by Mr. & Miss Gay San Francisco 1990 Nova Lei & Lady Bobbette. 9 p.m. \$3. Kim's, Pine & Polk, SF.
- **Chanticleer:** The male vocal ensemble will perform Gregorian Chants and Renaissance masterworks. 8 p.m. \$15-17. Herbst Theatre, Van Ness & McAllister, SF. 552-3656.
- **Western Star Dancers Gala 8th Anniversary Dance:** Square dancing for gays/lesbians to celebrate the return of the Gay '90s with caller Paul Marcum. Mainstream and Plus level. 7:30-10:30 p.m. \$5. St. Paulus Church, Gough & Eddy, SF. 864-6134.
- **Introduction to Sexuality:** Four session class by Rev. Coni Staff focusing on lesbian/gay community issues, positive human sexuality, and sex-negative traditions. 9:30 a.m. \$80. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

- **Rainbow Deaf Society for Gays & Lesbians:** St. Patrick's Day Party, 7-11 p.m. Raffle, games, fun! \$5 (wear green) and one drink, \$6 (no green). Hearing Society of the Bay Area, 20 Tenth St., 2nd floor, SF.
- **Husband Hunters:** Workshop for gay men seeking spouses. Topic: Learning to label and express feelings to improve relationships. 7:30-10 p.m. \$10. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 564-6164.
- **Bay Area Bisexual Network:** St. Paddy's Party, SF location, 9 p.m. Join other bisexuals for fun & dancing. \$1-5, BYOB. Call 564-BABN.
- **Amron Metaphysical Center:** The Church of Amron invites you to join in celebration of the Vernal Equinox with ritual and communion. 7 p.m. 2254 Van Ness, SF. 775-0227.

SUNDAY 18

- **I-Beam:** Sunday T-dance. Male dancers at 8, 9 & 10 p.m. 5 p.m.-2 a.m. \$4, \$3 w/pass. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- **Strips for Women:** See them take it off for you! Opens 8:30 p.m., strips 9:30 p.m., dancing till 11 p.m. \$5. Amelia's, 647 Valencia, SF.
- **Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation:** General meeting featuring forum on KQED with open gay employees of KQED. 7 p.m. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St./Valencia, 2nd floor, SF. 861-4588.
- **1990 National Bisexual Conference Steering Committee Meeting:** SF location. Call 775-1990.
- **G40 Plus Club:** Guest speaker Samuel Steward, author, professor and world traveler. 2-4 p.m. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Gough, SF. 552-1997.
- **Affirmation—Gay & Lesbian Mormons:** Social and support group for Latter-day Saints, their families, friends. 7 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 641-4554.
- **Religious Science of SF:** Sunday celebration & lecture. 10:30 p.m. 255 Valencia, 2nd floor. John, 641-1702.
- **Dignity:** Liturgy for gay/lesbian Catholics and friends at 5:30 p.m. at Dolores St. Community Cntr, 15th St. & Dolores. Call 255-9244.
- **Integrity:** Eucharist for the gathering community. 5:30 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church, 1661 15th St./Valencia. Call 553-5270.
- **SF MCC:** services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. (childcare and signing for the hearing-impaired). 7 p.m. worship and praise healing service. Recovery team at 1 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka. Call 863-4434.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** 11:30 a.m. at 48 Belcher (btwn 14th & Dolores), SF. Call 621-6300.

MONDAY 19

- **Bi Friendly SF:** Bi night out, 7:30 p.m. Castro restaurant. Pierre, 753-0687.
- **Duplicate Bridge Game:** 7 p.m. open game at Quicktricks Bridge Club at MCC Church, 150 Eureka. 285-5155.



- **Snake Talk:** Urgent Messages from the Mother: Created and performed by Naomi Newman, *Snake Talk* tackles issues of aging and death, planetary survival, competition and jealousy, child abuse, and the theft of women's power and sacred teachings. Mar. 22—Apr. 1, plays Wed.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 & 7 p.m. \$10-19. Pacific Jewish Theatre, 820 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. 861-4880.



WEEK

TUESDAY 20

- **Suds: The Rocking '60s Musical Soap Opera:** Set in a laundromat, a story of teen romance, lost love and secret dreams. Plays Tue.-Fri. at 8 p.m., Sat. at 7 & 10 p.m., Sun. at 3 & 7 p.m. \$22-24. Waterfront Theatre, Ghirardelli Square, SF. 861-6895.
- **A Celebration of Lives:** A community gathering to honor and acknowledge the importance of the people in our lives who have died. Hosted by eight AIDS service organizations. 7:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 476-6430.
- **Martin Ryter Photography Exhibit:** The internationally recognized fashion model photographer exhibits selected male nudes. Free, donations appreciated. The Living Room, 544-A Castro, SF. Hours: 12-10 p.m. daily. 255-8555.
- **Gay Men's Sketch:** Asian bodybuilders Joe Tolbe and Paul Shimazaki in single and duo classical nude modeling. 2 min. gestures to 40 min. pose. Joe's last performance before moving to Maui. \$15. 1229 Folsom, SF. Reservations, 621-6294.
- **Gay & Lesbian Modern Conversational Hebrew Class:** Tuesdays at 7 p.m., class runs indefinitely. \$5 per person, per class. Cong. Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers, SF. 861-6932 or 861-1362. Fee waived for those with life threatening illnesses.
- **Duplicate Bridge Game:** 7 p.m. Limited to newer players at Quicktricks Bridge Club at MCC Church, 150 Eureka. 285-5155.

HOT TIPS



THEATRE/PERFORMANCE

• **A ga pe:** American opera singer John Duykera and Japanese movement artist Hitomi Ikuma collaborate in a dramatic encounter exploring and contrasting their different cultures, disciplines, sexes and body types. They pursue cooperative revelation and search for a shared archetypal connection. Mar. 21-Apr. 1, plays Wed.-Sun. at 8:30 p.m. \$8-12. Life On The Water, Bldg. B, Ft. Mason, SF. 776-8999.

MUSIC

• **Womansong:** A concert by the Women's and Morning Choirs of MCC/SF featuring classical, gospel, folk and avant-garde sacred music by American women composers. 3 p.m. Free. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

FILM

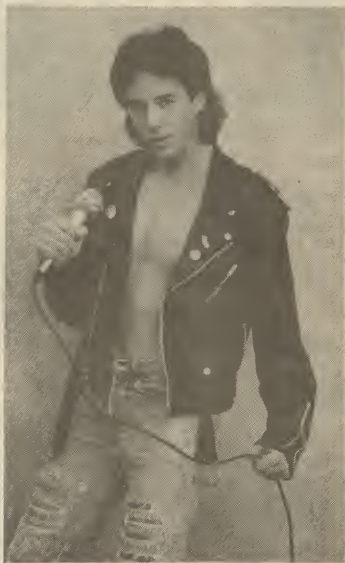
• **Looking For Langston & Tongues Untied:** Two acclaimed 1989 films confronting politics, the black male experience and sexual identity. Mar. 16-22, plays daily 7 & 9 p.m.; Sat., Sun., Wed. at 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9 p.m. Castro Theatre, Castro & Market, SF. 621-6120.

ART

• **2000 Natural Deaths:** Installation/exhibition by Gu Wenda utilizing used and unused sanitary napkins. Curated by Peter Selz & Katherine Cook. Thru Apr. 21. Hatley Martin Gallery, 41 Powell, SF. Hrs: Tue-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 392-1015.

FICTION/POETRY READINGS

• **A Different Light:** Saturday, Mar. 17: Sara Vogan reading/booksigning, *Loss of Flight*, at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 18: Paul Monette reading/booksigning, *Afterlife*, at 3:30 p.m.; Lesbian Writers Series with Katherine Sturtevant (*Mistress Moderately Fair*) at 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro. 431-0891.



• **Lou Cass at the I-Beam:** Bay Area premiere—Solid Gold recording artist Lou Cass singing his new dance single "Rated X" on Saturday, Mar. 17, starting at 9 p.m. at 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.

WEDNESDAY 21

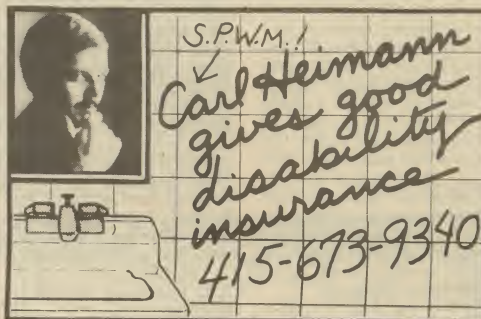
- **Female Trouble:** Presents Yeastie Girls, DJ Stephanie Phillips. \$3 cover. \$2.50 draft before 10 p.m. Wednesdays are for girls at Nightbreak, 1821 Haight, SF.
- **El Rio:** Comics Marga Gomez, Danny Williams, Shan Carr. \$5. 9 p.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Gertrude Stein and a Companion:** By Win Wells, celebrates the love behind the legend of two women. Thru Apr. 15, plays Wed.-Sun. at 8 p.m., Sun. matinees at 3 p.m. \$8-15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., SF. 861-5079.
- **I'm on a Mission from Buddha:** Lane Nishikawa's new one man show gives a panoramic view of Asian-American life. Thru Apr. 1, plays Wed.-Fri. at 8:30 p.m., Sat. at 7:30 & 10 p.m., Sun. at 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. \$13-15. Asian American Theatre Center, 403 Arguello/Clement, SF. 751-2600.
- **On Art & Politics Lecture Series:** Author Joyce Carol Oates, "The Life of the Writer and the Life of the Career." 8 p.m. \$13.50-11. Herbst Theatre, Van Ness & McAllister, SF. 552-3656.
- **The Indomitable Spirit:** A major new limited 50-edition portfolio comprised of ten previously unpublished photographs by John Baldessari, Chuck Close, Jan Groover, Annette Lemieux, Duane Michals, Richard Prince, Robert Rauschenberg, Cindy Sherman, Bruce Weber & William Wegman. Mar. 14-Apr. 14. Fraenkel Gallery, 55 Grant, SF. 981-2661. All proceeds benefit Photographers + Friends United Against AIDS.
- **Men of All Colors Together Greater Bay Area:** MACT/BWMT AIDS Task Force West Bay Playshop. 6:30-9 p.m. Sylvester, 474-5905, or Lee, 261-7922.
- **Castro Lions Club:** Jim Civanich, producer, writer, director of Men Behind Bars. 6:30 p.m. \$10 optional dinner. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market, SF. Bill, 824-0535.

THURSDAY 22

- **El Rio:** Cocktail Party featuring comedian Laura Milligan, female impersonator Davida, exotic dancer Marissa Scarpa & DJ Elton Brown. Free. 9-11 p.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **East Bay Girl Bar:** 7 p.m.-1 a.m. \$5. ARTS, 4031 Broadway, Oakland. 654-2864.
- **Chaos:** Music-videos-lust! Industrial, New Beat, Rap—DJs Mike & Lewis. Thursdays, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1. Crystal Pistol, 842 Valencia/19th St., SF.
- **Wet Jockey Shorts Contest at The Endup:** With Danny Williams & guests. \$25-100 in prizes. Stripper 9:30 p.m. sharp, contest 10:30 p.m. sharp. \$4. 6th & Harrison, SF.
- **Comedy & Song:** Comics Karen Ripley & Karen Williams with singer Melanie DeMore. 8 p.m. \$7-10. La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. 849-2568.
- **Old Wives' Tales Bookstore:** Beverly Kalinin, *Power to the Dancers: Self-Actualization for Women Through Dancing*, at 7:30 p.m. All welcome. Donation. 1009 Valencia, SF. 821-4675.
- **Sonoma County Bisexual Network:** Bisupport, a peer group for bisexuals of all ages and colors. 7 p.m. Michael, 539-2569.

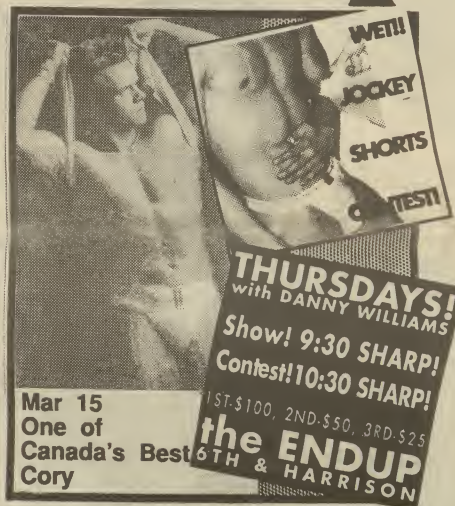


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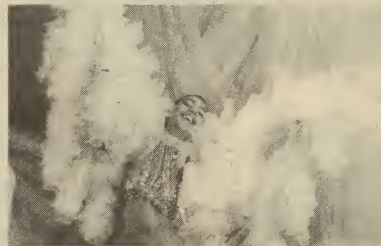
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Tongues Untied

(Continued from page 35)

well as a little amazed) that a film about black gay men had been made and that I was actually watching it in a movie theatre.

I also feel that this film is important for the gay community in general. When it comes to consciousness-raising and education about minority issues in the gay community, it usually falls to people of color to do the consciousness-raising and education. This can be very tiring for us and often leads to much resentment, anger and frustration. This film is a great consciousness-raising experience. For anyone who has ever been curious about or tried to understand what the black gay male experience is, this film will answer many of your questions (and probably leave you with several more). It is a truly enlightening and thought-provoking experience—one that everyone should have. ▼

Looking for Langston
Tongues Untied
Castro Theatre, March 16-22
621-6350

Pool

(Continued from page 48)

tributed a perfect 4-0 "pro bono."

Division IV has thus far been savaged by the league-leading San Marcos Cafe Quackers, who produced a 15-1 two weeks ago while visiting the Phone Booth Linemen. Last Tuesday they waddled across Market St. to the home of booming bass, black felt and the Detour Destroyers.

The home team's laser effects and partisan crowd provided inadequate distractions as the Quackers rolled out to 9-0 lead before E.Z.'s rail-first 8-ball kick shot hung in the pocket, calmly awaiting Bernie King's four ball run-out in what would be the Destroyers last taste of success.

Posting table runs in week five play were Gary Brower, Joe Glass, Glen Judd and Luby Pelletier. Joining those previously noted in the 4-0 club were Karen Brandman, Dan Carlson, Gail Chapman, Glenn Judd, Lisa Lewis, Jim Regan and Cathy Sutton, who also snapped in the league's lone 8-ball break. ▼

SFPA League Standings

Through Week Five

DIVISION I				DIVISION III			
TEAM	W	L	Pct.	TEAM	W	L	Pct.
White Swallow Hunters	64	16	.800	Overpassers	56	24	.700
Transfer Derailers	50	30	.625	Cinchseerly Yours	54	26	.675
Cinch Shooting Stars	45	35	.562	L'Equipe Detour	48	32	.600
Castro Station Raiders	39	41	.487	San Marcos Maneuvers	45	35	.562
Park Bowl	35	45	.437	Special Effects	38	42	.475
Amelia's Furies	33	47	.412	Emperor's Knights	31	49	.387
Uncle Bert's Wild Women	32	48	.400	Bear Et Al	28	52	.350
Francine's Fanatics	22	58	.275	Pilsner Shill	20	60	.250

DIVISION II				DIVISION IV			
TEAM	W	L	Pct.	TEAM	W	L	Pct.
White Swallow International	50	30	.625	San Marcos Quackers	66	14	.825
Giraffe Gigolos	46	34	.575	Cinch We 1st Met...	52	28	.650
Castro Station Express	45	35	.562	Detour Destroyers	39	41	.487
Uncle Bert's Barflys	45	35	.562	Overpass Toddlers	39	41	.487
Cinchspielers	36	44	.450	Isn't That Special	35	45	.437
Francine's Freestylers	35	45	.437	Bear Handled	33	47	.412
Transfer Ballbusters	32	48	.400	Pilsner Inn and Out	31	49	.387
Amelia's	31	49	.387	Phone Booth Linemen	25	55	.312

Bowling

(Continued from page 48)

Some of you high rollers might plan on dominating the 7th Annual Tri-City Tournament to be held in San Jose on Saturday, March 31. The Just Friends League and the Sterling's Mixed Trios will host this exciting event at the Fiesta Lanes, 1523 West San Carlos St., San Jose (easi-

ly accessible off I-280 at Meridian Ave.). For more information, contact either Mal Garcia at Park Bowl or Will Snyder at Japantown Bowl. ▼



PARK BOWL

TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

FINAL 1989/90 WINTER SEASON
Team Standings

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

	W	L
All American Trophy	59	25
Pilsner Pinguins	57½	26½
Park Bowl	55	29
Rolo's Too	51	33
Macho Sluts	51	33
S.P.N.E.S.O.	49½	34½
Julie's Supper Club	49	35
The Male Hookers	44½	39½
Starlight Room	43	41
G.W. Finley	40	44
Rolos	38	46
Stars & Strikes	35	49
Bench & Bar	35	49
5 Easy Pieces	34	50
Bowling "4" Husbands	34	50
Gutter Goddesses	33½	50½
The Lucille Balls	30	54

WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

	W	L
Pilsner 1	62	22
Pilsner No Boys	59	25
Leftovers	58	26
Play With It Ltd.	52	32
Bow-K	51	33
976-Pilsner	47½	36½
S.F. Chucks	47½	36½
Play With It Again	41	43
Park Bowl	39	45
Cinch	39	45
The Bear Tops	38	46
Galleon Sharks	37	47
San Francisco Pinheads	37	47
Gutter Girls	37	47
Pilsner-Trigdy Strikes Ag'n	32	52
Wee Bowls Wah Bowls	30	54
Bowlerinas	26	58
Bearly Bowlers	20	64

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

	W	L
Ma's Kids	65½	26½
Choyce Meat	61½	30½
29's Only	61	27
Willows	59½	28½
Play With It, Ltd.	57	31
The Starlight Room	54	34
Brooklyn Raiders	53	35
S.F. Eagle	47	41
Trax of R Years	47	41
Park Bowl	42	46
Fresh Trax	42	46
Reflections	39	49
Gutter Sluts	39	49
Wild Balls	38	50
Capricorn Coffees	38	50
Four Play	35½	52½
The Krewe	35	53
Dustbusterz	29	59

Blues Roll On

Blues in the Night, a celebration of the great jazz and blues songs of the 1920s and '30s, is the current production of the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre. The show, which runs through April 7 at 620 Sutter St., explores the lives of three women and a saloon singer in a cheap hotel during the course of a long, memory-filled evening.

For reservations phone 474-8800. Tickets are also available through BASS and the STBS ticket office at Union Square. ▼



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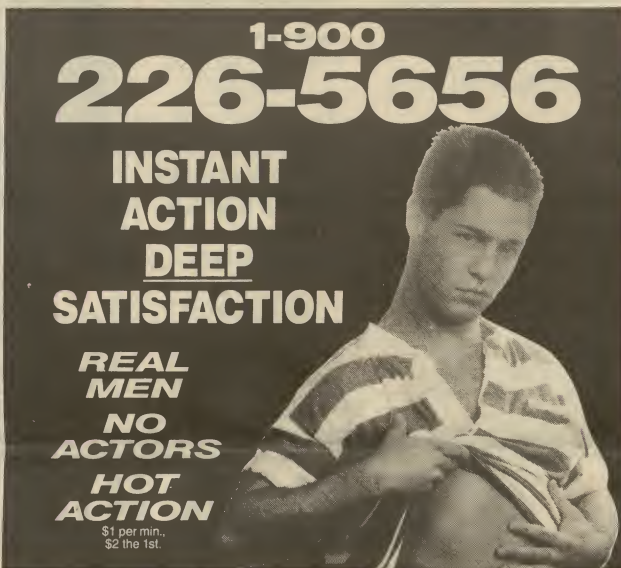
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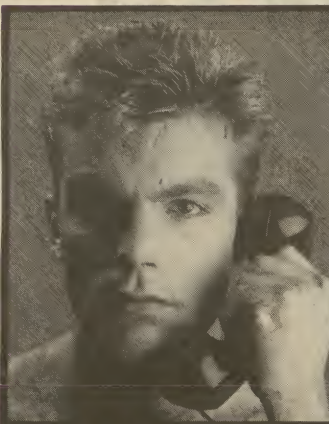


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The Connector

241-2400

Low Rate E11

Serious Scat Tops 40+ wanted by hungry bottom, 49, East Bay 843-6299 E12

Secret Gospel Church

Ancient Phallic Rites of Gnostic Christianity: An orgy of Brotherly Love. Males 18 & older welcome.

Info & Schedule: 552-7339

Find Your Special Man!

effective, exclusive, discreet

Quality Relationships for
Quality Men Since 1974



David the Matchmaker

Ages 20-60

Visa/MC

(415) 863-9550

LISTEN AND TALK...

...To thousands of horny guys while they get it on.

The Connector

241-2400

Low Rates E11

AZT \$35/100 Joe 550-0888 E11

Pose Nude for National Mags
227-5137 (24 hours) E32

Masculine Dad with Big Dick seeks Slim, Smooth Son, 18-22, 5'8" or under, live-in possible, 641-7006 E20

Prison Gang Rape Films, Thurs., Big Cock Films, Fri., Glory Holes, Sat, all 8 pm-1 am, \$5, 1080 Folsom, 3 hr, VHS copies, \$25, 863-4882 E16

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PLAY HOUSE**
unless you take me to see
TAMMY WYNETTE at the
Cow Palace, March 16th.
TAMMY FOREVER! ME!

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SHIATSU

Swedish-plus

Heated Table

\$35 and up

TED, CMT

255-0421

South Lake Tahoe

— masseur —

Jim (702) 588-5559

CELEBRATE YOURSELF

Empower Your Body

Total Relaxation by Professional.

Get rid of the non-you.

— 8 years experience —

Rich 863-9293

KUDDLY KUB

Massages you your way. Nite

or Day. Solid 220, 6'2", 30yrs,

masc, hairy, healthy, hung.

Mark 826-5452

I care.

Massage

VISIT HEAVEN!



MIKE & JEFF

THE ULTIMATE SENSUAL

MASSAGE EXPERIENCE!

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100% GUARANTEE

CHECK IT OUT!

Extraordinary full-body massage in comfortable Castro studio by sensitive, goodlooking 28-year-old.

DAVID, 648-1413

Serious/Experienced/Personable
Reasonable Rates/In Only

Full Body Nude Erotic MARIN MASSAGE

Very Friendly & Discreet

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after 3 beeps punch in your tele #

X-handsome, 6'2", very-defined BB, xtra-strong, professional, sensual, 8 yrs experience, 9 a.m.-11 p.m., Bill 626-6210. E11

3-WAY MASSAGE

The ultimate in massage by 2 gorgeous guys. We know where you need it. 864-8414. E11

Sensual Swedish/Shiatsu Massage. Peter 864-5483. E11

★ PERSONALIZED MASSAGE ★

Slate of the Art Bodywork.

Create the massage experience

you'd most love. Full body, gentle to

deep, soothing deeply relaxing.

Handsome caring CMT

John 771-6533

For Your Eyes Only. . .

Hauntingly Handsome Masseuse

will relax you all over!

Alex, 861-1362 24 hrs E11

GORGEOUS BLOND

Sensual massage by 21 yr. 6'1",

170, Joe 541-5689, 24hr. E11

A Masseuse & A Gentleman

Handsomeness, 27 years,

warm hands, warm heart. David,

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**High-Strength
sensitive
touch
\$40 • Jim
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Gorgeous guy gives Swedish-Shiatsu massage. call 775-4771, 24 hours. E13

Fullbody massage by nude body-builder 36, 5'5", 42" c, 16" a, older men welcome, fine body, \$40, in/out, Don 441-2584. E11

TREAT YOURSELF!

Relaxing, sensuous, full-body massage. Athletic, handsome, trained bodyworker. Convenient location. Mature men welcome.

In/Out • Hotels • 24 hours

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ESALEN
Rejuvenation
Great Hands
\$40 and up
Don, CMT
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Jim • 558-9688

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masculine, intelligent Jeff Stryker-type. Certified, sophisticated, convenient location parking. \$45.

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A Dream Come True Massage

DAVID 552-0473

a handsome, muscular bodyworker

IT'S HARD

To find a great masseur. No gimmicks, multiple ads, #'s or names. When you want the best erotic massage in S.F., look no further. I'm an intelligent handsome and hunky bodyworker who will give your muscles the attention they need.

ROBERT 567-6015

HOT SHOT

LOADS OF ENERGY

I can do what a man does best.

Handsome Man, 6'1", 205,

blonde, bisexual muscle magic,

big meat, intelligent.

Sensuous, Swedish massage.

I KNOW YOU KNEAD IT.

50/70 24hrs GREG

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WORKOUT RUBDOWN

BY RUDDY

FRIENDLY

ATHLETE

"IRISH SPINT"

RUNNERS

SPECIAL

\$35 - 90 min Mar. 17, 18, 19 only

WHR \$40, 4.5 hrs \$50, 2 hrs \$60, IN

NON SEXUAL CERTIFIED EXPERIENCED

BEAUTIFUL VIEW TWIN PEAKS AREA

WILL 285-2527

Glorious Touch + Hot Videos

MASTER MASSEUR

Call Mark 24hrs, 648-6081 E12

*** Buns Massage ***

Buns and legs worked over and

the rest of you, too.

Larry 621-8560, in. 24hrs. E12

YO MASSAGE!

Check It Out: Athletic CMT helps you relax your body and mind with a Swedish-Esalen Massage, 75 min/ \$35 (\$45 out),

Robert Salinas 621-3291 E12

Caring and Nurturing Full Body

Massage 931-2395. E11

East Bay full body massage.

Montclair/Piedmont, \$30.

George 601-0451 E11

COMPLETE FULL BODY

Nude hot oil massage, sensuous

and caring, call Anthony,

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Hot Blond Stripper/Swimmer.

Kinky \$50 Nick 255-6433 E11

Deep Muscle/Neuromuscular

MASSAGE

1000 hrs. training, 3 yrs. exp.

Strong • Reliable • Personable • Excellence

Jamie, L.M.T. 673-2239

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18+Only

\$2+Any Toll

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ALWAYS 6
MESSAGES!



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B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

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An hour and a half of quality bodywork. A professional and nurturing Swedish-Esalen Massage for men & women. A wonderful way to reduce stress, pain and fatigue. PWAs welcome.

Certified - \$40 - Castro Area
Tom Lombardo 553-4073

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\$45/1 hour • \$55/90 min.



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Certified Massage
\$40/1½ hours
(415) 386-0152 John
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Experiencing Corporate Burnout?
Relax with a full body massage by an experienced professional near the Castro - 1 p.m.-11 p.m.
60 min. \$30 • 2 hrs. \$60
90 min. \$45 • Outcalls \$75
John Polozzo, CMT 255-6263
Rebirthing Sessions Available

I'm an Extremely Handsome Masseuse with an Incredible Body. I have hands filled with strength, a heart filled with sensitivity and an intuitive nature to find out what feels the best, Brad 861-1805. E14

Get the massage you really need: sensual blend of Swedish, point work, deep tissue, stretches & subtle energy balancing by handsome CMT. Non-sexual, 75min. \$40/50 in/out. Jim 752-8846. E11

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Regular Swedish/Shiatsu Massage
Private Potrero Hill Studio

Discounts for Morning Appts.
Repeats, and PWAs

State Certified

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MASSEUR 647-4423

MEL GIBSON

type 26 y.o. masculine, muscular
certified Swedish massage. \$45.

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Friendly, fit masseur
969-3570 E11

MUSCLE 2000

Total bod mass by yng man with
1990's flex appeal!
broad gymnast's shoulders,
striated pecs, peaked biceps,
chiseled waist and sprinter's legs.
27 yrs, 5'8", 180lbs,
a mass from the future, now!
\$50/60min. \$65/90min.
Craig 648-9025 E11

WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO!!!

Smooth, Trim, Muscl, Hung 8' Thick Hands,
Friendly, Affectionate Masseuse gives you
ALL THE EXTRAS!
Many Satisfied Repeats. Near Church/Market.
In/Out. Major Hotels OK, Visa/M.C.
Special afternoon rates available.
Call J.J. 985-9871

**SHIATSU
Specialist**
\$40/75 min.
Michael
Quintal, CMT
821-9521



Massage by Manuel 252-1091 E11

TRANQUILITY

These capable hands will
revitalize you with an effective
blend of Swedish, acupressure
and Shiatsu. Feel yourself float
away into ecstasy.
sensual not sexual, certified.
Bob 861-0792 E11

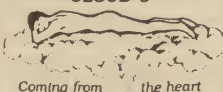
24hr, FF Expert, 648-6081 E12

Masterly Compleat Massage by
Versatile E Bay CMT, both strong
and sensual. \$35/75 min. Greg
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College student gives sensual
massage to men 18 to 60. Call
Steve, 864-6155
evenings and weekends

CLOUD 9



Coming from the heart

Swedish
Hot Oil
Massage

\$28 DENNIS (415) 255-2839

EXPERIENCE

for yourself an erotic full-
body massage by a very
handsome bodybuilder.

Go ahead...indulge...
\$40 in/\$50 out.
Daniel, 864-0788

SIMPLY SUPERB



A joyous spirit, loving heart, and
consummate massage skill
translate into a relaxing and
healing experience for you.
1 hr-\$40 • 1½ hrs-\$50 • 2 hrs-\$60
Veet Sandeha 9 am-9 pm
821-6265 (SF)
366-6014 (Peninsula)

LOST FOR WORDS

Pretty man hung 9", 6', 195,
B/Builder, blond, blue, nice big
hands, hot lotion rub.
GREAT FOR SHY TYPES
Adam 474-8027 \$50in/\$65out E11

MUSCLE MAGIC

Lay back and experience total
muscle meltdown. The masterful,
masculine hands of an xtra warm
and handsome muscular masseur
give an extraordinary total-body
massage. certified
Nick 255-6157 E11

TOM

ADVENTURESOME

Built tight, muscular & hung.
Blond man, 32, 6', 190 lbs.
Very friendly guys
over 30 preferred.

Sensual massage in the buff.
\$45 in/\$60 out 24 hrs.

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EUROPEAN TRAINED CMT FROM AUSTRIA

High quality massages
\$40-in, \$60-out (90 minutes)
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861-2247

21 YR OLD

I'm attractive, have pleasant
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nurturing massages in the Nob Hill
area. \$45 call Danny 9 am-mid-
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Bavaria Express
A fine massage that makes your
day, call Alexej at
255-5967 E11

Cert. Masseuse, Amma, Acupres-
sure, 75min. \$40, 252-1202. E11

Deep-tissue, Swdsh full-bod erot-
ic massage by yng blind BB trainer.
Jeff \$40in/out 550-6833, cert. E11



Blond Green Eyes
massage • model • escort
MARC (415) 255-4840

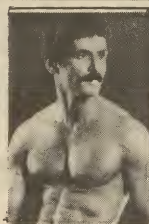
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If for any reason,
you are not
completely satisfied,
your money is
cheerfully refunded!

Marin/S.F.
541-5607
Buddy



Swedish • Shiatsu
Certified
Alan 626-2843



RELAX AND ENJOY
a deep soothing massage
by a Handsome Italian
call Chris 285-1469 E11

NURTURING

Skilled, Intuitive Body-Work
Swedish/Esalen, Acupressure,
Rebirthing. HIV+ encouraged,
PWA discount. Body Electric grad.
Non-sexual, by appointment,
Castro location. 2 hrs/\$30.
BILL WEINTRAUB
626-5316 E11



HEALING
MESSAGES
AND
TAROT
READINGS
\$30/hr.
R.L. BATES
(415) 864-3736

PHYSICAL ATTRACTION

V-handsome Scandinavian man,
weight lifter, friendly, 8" cut,
blond/blue, 6', 185.
Especially like small
Asian & Latin men.
Erotic nude massage.

45 in 55 out 931-3263 Ron 24 hrs

Peace, healing, nurturing, safety.
Explore the mystery that is you.
Tall, big, strong, hdsn, B/B,
Swede, cert., Gunnar 647-4007 E12

Total body, hot lotion massage.
Buns a specialty. 24 hrs. In. Larry
621-8560 E12

Let The Wall Down

I'm Erik, a certified masseur from
Germany I am handsome, clean,
and professional. My work is per-
sonal, discrete and safe. Doctors
and chiropractors praise it, and so
will you I work on a professional
massage table, in and out.
\$35 / \$45.
Call 399-2643 to talk to me

**Sensual Full
Body Massage**
Seeking New Clients
\$30-50 in • \$40-60 out
Larry 252-0644 24hrs.



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MATT DILLON TYPE
567-4257

Erotic nude handsome 291-9590 E14

All men 50+. Best \$25 massage.
Great! Nick 552-5059. E11

Marin-SF, Hot BB Massage 10 am-
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Asian American Masseuse
Certified, \$50/\$60. 285-9019 E29

SAN JOSE HUNK

6'1", 190, sexy, masc, gorgeous,
hot bod. (408) 559-7524 E14

Hot, Sensuous, Relaxing
Massage. 552-2748. Vidal E11

CUTE & ROMANTIC

TEDDY BEAR
Hdsn & Masculine Latino
Guy, 26, Smooth Swimmer's
Build, 5'7", 140lbs, delicious
buns, passionate & versatile.
Let my hands relax
& please you.
CARLOS 465-0231
\$50 in \$65 out 24 hrs.

ASIAN STUDENT



Birthdays Suits Pressed

WHILE-U-WAIT

Chakras set Aglow
Certified 18th & Noe \$35
Jim 864-2430 E12

Sensual, full body massage with
a handsome bodybuilder.
Tony 567-4473 E11

EXCELLENCE

is what I strive to achieve
in life, and my complete,
full-body, erotic massage
is not exceptional! I'm a
well-built, very handsome
blond BB. \$40 in/out,
Kevin 864-1190 E11

ROLL OVER LET DAD TAKE OVER

Erotic arousing cert. massage by
dynamic dad. Handsome healthy
muscular masculine 24 hours.
Andy 826-5452
Even Dads Need a Dad

GENTLEMAN'S GENTLEMAN

Superior massage by strong, extra hand-
some, intelligent 32 yr. old professional.
Ultimate full-body relaxation in the privacy
of your home or hotel provided by striking,
5'11", 170lb, clean-cut, blue-eyed, broad-
shouldered man. S.F. only. \$60 out.
11 am-10 pm, call 567-2119
PETER

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Massage

SENSUAL MASSAGE

Relax... Relax... Relax... I have the touch and love giving massage... a professional massage using oil, on a table, in a warm, quiet studio; certified \$28 for 75 minutes. \$40 for 2 hours. **Bruce 626-2026**. (in the Castro) Certified.



For a sensual massage • in/out
call **Dick 337-6709**



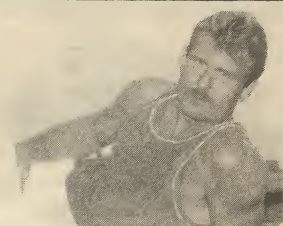
Hot Dominant Queen
Mistress Tina
(415) 626-6743

THE PERSONAL TOUCH
Deep, satisfying massage.
certified and discreet.
Daniel, 626-4192, eves/wknd. E14

East Bay Healing Massage, Kris
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Cute, Young, Friendly CMT enjoys
giving sensual and nurturing
massages to gentle men. Kyle
752-6334. E11

252-0775
BEAT OFF TENSION E11



BLOND CANADIAN

Even if you're a little shy
One-of-a-kind-Man
When you need a
friendly hand, a warm,
sensual experience
& a fun man,
6', 195, nude, erotic
Swedish hot lotion rub.
Experienced
Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr

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There is someone by the name of Vincent
soliciting advertisers on these pages for ad
work. He is NOT an employee of the *Bay
Area Reporter*. If you have problems call
Ann at 861-5019.

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Internationally Acclaimed
Consistent Excellence
\$50/90 min. 24 Hrs/In
Nob Hill View

DAVID HILAIRE

931-2821



Deep Relaxing Swedish Massage
by Handsome Bodybuilder.
\$35/75 min.—in. Certified.
David 221-7364. E12

Le Grande Massage...
Dave, 861-1362, anytime. E11

BODYWORKER/BB

Experience a full body, deep tissue
massage by a v. handsome 5'10"
185lb bodybuilder. Soothing, sensu-
al & rejuvenating. You deserve
the best. Clean, private and pro-
fessional. call Robert 567-6015,
24hrs. E16

Before that next massage ★
Be smooth. Consider waxing for
hair removal of shoulders, chest,
back, butt & legs. Clean & Effi-
cient by Attractive lic. prof.
626-9654. E12

Models & Escorts

HOT MOUTH BROWN BOTTOM

Cute & Versatile out \$75
25yrs, 8in., Jeff 553-3734. E11

Hairy bearded well hung man for
hire Steven—38, 6'2", 180,
431-5974 daytime best. E11

DAVE—\$25/HR!
864-8163 anytime. E11

Models & Escorts

ALL-AMERICAN BOY

25 y.o. swimmer lays back for
W O R S H I P
Handsome, clean-cut, wholesome.
TREAT 775-3114 No B.S.

I need to peel 861-7128. E11

Sexy blond jock with washbrd abs
& incredible pecs, 26yrs, 5'9"
155#, 8" c, tanned, masculine &
very handsome, \$80in/\$100out
Brandon 864-0788. E11

Straight dude into videos and at-
tentn. Big thick 8 1/2" plunger,
hairy, muscular, hung and serious.
Mitch \$60 864-0230. E11

XHOT XHUNG XFUN

26, 6'2", 170# Nick 252-0979. E11

FR/GR LESSONS

Mark's body language, 24 hrs.
training & videos 648-6081. E15

Rock hard butt, 621-3990
"Bon Appetite" E11

VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN

Hot, gdlkg, rockhard muscles
& athl legs. Vers, healthy,
yng, hung, tall Marine type.
Anytime. No BS.
Dan 753-8604

23, blu eyes, dark curly hair,
masculine, handsome & ready, no
a.m., no b.s., Patrick 863-8755. E11

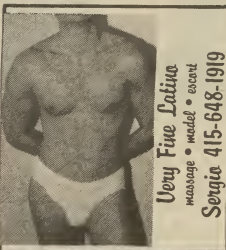
Hung Blond Grad Student
Heads your way for attention, ver-
bal and explosive, 30 yrs, very
hairy, 5'7", 140#, \$70 out, Marco
563-4019. E11

INCREDIBLY HANDSOME TOP SIX FT EIGHT

32, 220#, 8 thick inches
versatile, playful, raunchy
please no phone JO, \$100
863-3823 BRENT! E11

Cute, Young & Hung Top, Kurt
9"STUDMUFFIN
yummy & filling 541-5616. E11

9 1/2 Thick Cut, Loves
getting attn. goodlooking, masc.
& trim, 36yrs, 6', 155lbs, brn hair,
blue eyes, beard, \$60 in or out,
Tom 441-0509. E11



Very Fine Latina
massage • model • escort
Sergio 415-648-1919



San Francisco's



First Quality

Escort Service

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THE ESCORT SERVICE

Bodybuilding Stars ★

Video Stars ★

Stars in your Eyes ★

567-9116

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Harbour Studios 521-1493

**Very Muscular
Incredible Legs
Genuinely Handsome
(415) 431-STUD in/out**

A MAN'S MAN

Beard • Built
Tattoos • Hung
Verbal • Dominant
and a helluva nice guy
CORY 928-7572

Doug Flutie type
Built, Masculine, Safe.
Skip 821-7818. E13

Leather nylon male 863-3862. E12

Hot Puerto Rican Bottom
call 255-8782, safe 24 hrs. E11

HUNG BODYBUILDER

gdlkg, vers, 9" cut, 5'10", 180,
36, br/bl, discreet, hot, fun
\$100 Mark 451-6367. E11

STEVEN

931-3138. E11

Hot Bottom, 31, avail. for your
pleasure (707) 869-9461. E11

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Heated Pool makes for a Hot Time
24 hrs, 861-7176. E11

Hot-Blooded Buddy

Hot young stud. Super Endowed.
Thick power tool.
Rock-hard body. Low hangers.
Vincent \$75 #415-MAN-8535

Big, Thick, Uncut SOUTH BAY BOY

evenings/weekends
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Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
Horse Hung, Collegiate Jock
Masculine, Muscular
Swimmer's Build

**Craig \$80 in/out
(415) 626-8535**

Dial no., wait 3 bps. Punch yr no. & # sign
Wait 3 bps. again Hang up Pager 739-7527

TOO BIG

For most... hot, young jock; sexy,
smooth, v-shaped torso; hung
thick! Get ready for Keith
\$85/\$90, 567-2949. E11

Dad w/belt & nasty 8" 863-6536. E14

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Belly, beard, hairy dad 995-4754. E11

"A Condom or a Casket!" E11

Tall Black Stud

Gdlkg, sexy, 6'4", 185 gym-toned
pounds, well-hung thick uncut
top. out only, Marshall 995-4789. E11

BRAINS—LOOKS & PERSONALITY?

Yes, it can still be found in this
23 y.o., 6'1", 167lb, br/gr pro-
fessional. Definite quality you
shouldn't be w/o.
**Matt 995-2602
PROTEGE**

HUNKY YOUNG ★STUD★

24, 5'9", 150#
swimmer/soccer
player with solid legs,
well-toned arms and
pecs—HUNG 9 1/2"
★SCOTT★
IN/OUT
863-4587



KURT • 255-4601

Professional Photographer
seeks models; fee chg'd
969-3570. E11

DADDY'S SLING

Safe, exp., kinky, ff, b/d, tt, toys,
gloves, husky, 5'9", 175, blond,
musc. Andy 861-2668. \$80,
cleaning hose extra. E11

NICK 252-0979

24 hr Motion & Devotion. E11

X Big Hairy Butt 861-7128. E11



23, 5'10", 160 lbs, blond hair,
blue eyes, cleancut student,
smooth, muscular, swimmer,
fun, safe, discreet \$100 In/Out,
will travel. Mike 267-3032.

THE STALLION Bpr # 337-3985

ED WILEY

Star of 14 films
Massage or Escort, Safe
Phone 255-4665. E11

Clean-cut Surf-type w/Hard Body
callback req. Jeff 431-7571. E11

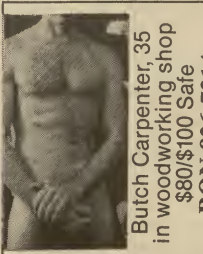
Model, escort, masseur, sexy, hot-
looking, hung and cute. call
775-4771, 24 hours. E13

HUNG LIKE A HORSE

Ital. stallion, br/br, 5'8", fat tool,
stud looks, built.
Jonny \$75 864-6436. E11

ITALIAN DADDY

Hung and Hairy
239-8419



Butch Carpenter, 35
in woodworking shop
\$80/\$100 Safe
RON 826-7314

METICULOUS

Massage to overcome stress



Certified • Non-sexual • \$35
Rich Mapel 641-5045

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Models & Escorts

COCKY BOY DIGS WORSHIP

25 y.o. punk likes his 7' idol worshipped. Cocky, verbal, dominant—*A rebel with a cause.*

TONY 864-3133

PHOTO BY RAM 553-8172



HOT BLOODED ITALIAN
252-0775
(HIGH REPEAT)

Submissive Games/Sparking
Red 864-2704
Hungry Bottom E11

Straight dude kicks back. Tough, muscular, 8 1/2 thick inches dig attention. real handsome, w/tattoos. Into men, women, cigars and video. Mike \$100 861-7379. E11

Fun Man! Al 621-1456. \$30! E11

DOMINANT YOUNG LATINO



Fulfill your Pleasure
with this Schoolboy Stud
Rick 921-RICK

GOURMET'S DELIGHT

Over 10" of tender beef, 6'2", hot, 200lbs, Black/Cherokee Reasonable

775-6544 (out) bon appetite

Head my way! \$35 the best ask for B.J. 864-5483 E11

HOT YOUNG STUD

21, blue eyes, dark hair, well hung, out only.

Dirk 282-9860 E11

Handsome Masculinity on a Pleasant 28 yr old. 6'1", 160lbs, long bln hair & blue eyes 4 this sexpot. Relax & enjoy Ed by calling 775-2069, \$50. E11

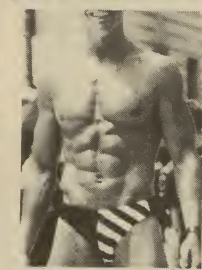
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Relaxed, Toys, Safe.
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COMPETITION B.B.

5'10", 225lbs., 52"ch., 31" w, 28"th., Hung Bigger, Harder • Vince \$100, In-Out **495-6345**

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27, smooth & muscular for striptease, massage or j/o, Shawn 255-4691 E11

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Daddy, Chad 861-7014 E14

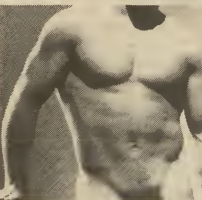
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On Top • King Size, etc. etc.
TOP • SAFE • In/Out
26yrs, 5'11", 172lbs, 10 1/2"

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Unique Hunk w/Brains & Brawn
32" w, 16" a, 44" c, 5'9", 165lbs.
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Bodybldr, 26yrs, 5'9", 155#, 8" cut, a real hunk! Boyd 550-6833 E11

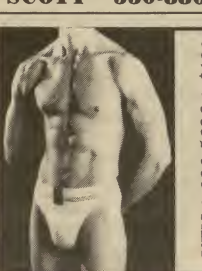
Hot Bottom 29 y.o. avail. for Select
Hung Executive Tops and Dad-
dies. out. all hotels. \$100, Mark,
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Goodlooking
Bodybuilder, 5'8" 155#,
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24 hours

SCOTT 550-8805



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6', 175lbs, 42c, 29w
**HANDSOME/BUILT
SEXY THICK NINER**
\$100 863-7399

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★ MASTER ★
6', 260lbs, 21"a, 56"ch
JOHN 563-5176

Man with a belt 928-7572 E18

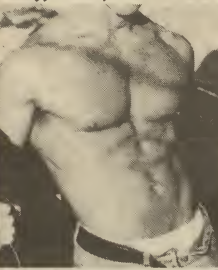
Brian, 24 y.o., 150#, 5'7"
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6 ft, 215#, 29yr, strong guy
wants attn: 664-7156
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A Dominant, Tall, Dark, HANDS, S/M TOP

Creative, verbal, warm, wild,
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stocked with mirrors, boots,
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gloves. Tell me what you want.

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Gentle Top, 5'5", 142, Hairy.
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27, 5'9", #145, hung
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6'1", 24yo., blond/blue
masculine, hot muscular legs and buns

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Extra thick—Extra hung!!!

Anthony \$80.
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\$100/out 863-8747 E11

Exotic Mulatto; Sexy; Hot-
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A butt you can fit in the palm of
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8" c, 24yrs, 864-0788, Steve
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Competitive Titleholder B/B
26 yrs. old • 250 lbs.
V-shape • X-hung • X-handsme
Dirk 495-6345
or bpr. 764-9244

6'4", 195#, hairy, ex-Army Sgt.
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Hot Italian Bottom
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Bay Area Reporter BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS



Four contestants vied in the first heat of the Mr. SF Eagle Leather contest last Wednesday.

(Photo: Marcus)

Mr. SF Drummer to be Chosen This Saturday

by Mister Marcus

You have to be completely out of it not to notice that a lot of leather men in our community are looking "extra good" these days. What with the Mr. Eagle Leather and Mr. Bear Leather contests already in progress and the Mr. Watering Hole Leather competition beginning on April 4, they're all looking toward Chicago for the Intl. Mr. Leather competition on Memorial Day weekend.

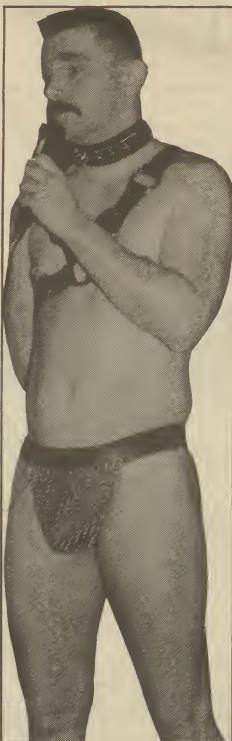
And while all this is going on, the march toward the Mr. Drummer title takes place this weekend not only here in San Francisco, but in Phoenix, where they'll be picking the second Mr. Southwest Drummer at the Bum Steer. I'll be co-MCing the event with IML '88 Mike Pereyra there.

Here on our turf, thanks to Doug Deal and the Mister S Company, they'll be picking Mr. San Francisco Drummer, Saturday, March 17 at the SF-Eagle. Al Parker, Peter Austin, Fred Rudiger, Jim Ward and Rick Booth are the judges. Sharon McNight flies in from Los Angeles to co-MC with Zach Long and I suspect she'll be warbling a few tunes as well.

Already the GDIs, Cheaters MC, Constantines MC, Forum of SF, Golden Gate Guards and the Imperial Family Board are preparing scrumptious cakes which will be auctioned off; the Cake Gallery is donating one too and a special one shaped in the image of Al Parker's considerable appendage will be given away for a "special treat." The admission price for the beer bust is \$8 which begins at 2000 hours; the contest begins at 2030. The entire proceeds will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Rita Rockett Foundation

for Sunday brunches for patients at SF General. Doug Deal and Mister S Co. are underwriting the whole thing so the entire proceeds will go to the beneficiaries. I hope you all have a good time. Since I'll be in Phoenix, B.A.R. staff photographer Rick Gerharter will capture it all on film for next week's edition.

★ ★ ★



Darrell "Cub" Haven

(Photo: Marcus)

Last Wednesday, March 7 and again last night, the first two heats of the Mr. SF-Eagle Leather contest got under way. There were four contestants for the first heat and judges Mr. SF Leather Peter Austin, Ms. SF Leather Corky D. and former IML Colt Thomas didn't find it an easy task. At the Eagle, the winner and runner-up each Wednesday (the next one is on Mar. 21) will compete—six in all—on Wed., March 28 for the title and represent the bar at the Mr. SF Leather contest on May 12. This could lead to a trip to Chicago on Memorial Day weekend, as well.

At the Bear on Castro last Thursday, March 8, there were three contestants put through the paces by again Corky D. and Ken Horan. The Trusted Servants MC (the boozeless brigade) were there in full force to cheer their contestant on.

At the Eagle, the winner was 22-year old Joe "Tripper" Hollinger and the runner-up was 42-year old David Welch. The contest was conducted in a business-like manner (serious!) but with a lot of humor thrown in to ease the nervousness.

At the Bear, the winner was Darrell "Cub" Haven, owner of one of the most beautiful pair of legs in the world. Besides his leathery proclivities, Darrell is a hot shot on the bowling lanes too and is active in the SF chapter of the National Leather Association—all pluses! The Bear's second heat is tonight, March 15, starting at 2100. The finals are on Thursday, March 28 and Serena is doing a good job MCing the event. Out of the three semi-finalists at the Bear,

(Continued on next page)

CLUB 1808 A MAN'S PRIVATE J/O ARENA

New 1990 Schedule of Hours

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NOTE: 1808 is a private club for Jack-Off artists and includes the body-conscious man. Washboard stomachs, masculine looks, etc. No charge for clothes check system. Clothes check is mandatory.

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1990 APRIL FOOLS'

BUTCH *femme* S O I R É E

A Night of Gender Confusion

Dance • Costume Contests • Photos • General Frolicking

Emcees and Judges:

Karen Williams • JoAnn Loulan • Tom Ammiano
Emperor XVII, Jerry Coletti • Empress XXIV, Pat Montclair
Music by Cyndy

Saturday, March 31 • 8pm until 1:30am

Gift Center Pavilion, Brannan & 8th St., San Francisco

9:00 CLASS & TRASH

• Classiest Queer Contests

(One Butch & one Femme award)
Harry and Leona types, "Daahling I wouldn't have come to this little party if I'd known it wasn't tax deductible."

• Vamp Contests

(One Butch & one Femme award)
The gigolo and femme fatale; the best offer you never had or if you did... you lived to regret it.

11:00 THE THEME ZONE

• Petty Hetero Couple Contest

(One award)
Tacky, suburban hetero look-a-likes.

• Best Theme Contest

(One award)
The best couple or team that includes both butch and femme, not overlapping any other contest category. Otherwise, a dimension of sight and sound where your imagination is the only limit.

12:30 A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

• Naugahyde/Vinyl Contests

(One Butch & one Femme award)
The butch & the femme who finally give these pseudo-materials the recognition they so richly deserve. Tacky, urban leather look-a-likes.

• Recombinant Queer Contest

(One award)
The best butch and femme rolled into one contestant; a genetic engineer's nightmare.

ARRIVE EARLY

To stimulate exhibitionism and arouse voyeurism, contestants for each category will be selected by members of a secret nominating committee. If you yearn to possess one of the coveted Wrench or Rose Awards, arrive early.

Tickets: \$25.50 advance/\$30 door To benefit the National Center for Lesbian Rights

Tickets available until March 31 at Mama Bears, Oakland; Headlines, Castro and Palk locations, San Francisco; or send check payable to Solree Productions & SASE to P.O. Box 31748, S.F., CA 94131. Mail orders received after March 23 will be held at the door.



Gay Men's Chorus serenades troops at Eagle beer bust.

(Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

only one person will represent that bar in the Mr. SF Leather contest. Only one contestant will represent the Watering Hole too. I understand there may be an entrant from the Mint (!) and the Detour as well.

★ ★ ★

It was fun this past week. Saturday night, a Los Angeles lesbian basketball team played our SF Slammers and our men (the Hotshots) played what was billed as a Los Angeles team, but was, in fact from Long Beach (the Long Beach Lancers). Well... Long Beach is in Los Angeles County.

This encounter was supposed to be a "preview" of the big battle between the four teams in Vancouver at Gay Games III next August—does this mean no other teams from around the world will be playing?

As it turned out, our women beat the L.A. team by *only one* point. The men beat the Long Beach team 54-42, but the Hot Shots were hard-pressed to make that victory. Despite what some so-called experts think, our hoopsters will *not* have an easy time in Vancouver. On Sunday, March 11, the Lancers played the Pendulum Pacers, one of the best teams in the SF Bay Area, and lost that game by only one point (74-73). Is there something strange with this picture?

The Sisters of PI, Inc., game was a benefit for Team San Francisco. Gail Wilson flawlessly warbled the na-

tional anthem, the tremendously talented "Rainbeau" entertained during the intermission, followed by the Flag Corps and the new Hayward Rah Rahs did a bit of flouncing about. The "Spirit" Marching Band performed well under the masterful baton of Wayne Love and kudos galore for a fun night. Thanks to all 700 of you who were there to support our athletes!

★ ★ ★

Sunday dawned rainy, but by "beer bust" time, the sun was shining out over a windy and chilly day. Even Ernie Viola managed to rip off his cocoon and ventured out to join the big turnout for the Gay Men's Chorus beer bust at the Eagle. Was it packed? Was Pocahantas an American Indian? Even those two Oakland cuties, Larry Barao and Gary Hackett braved the elements to revel in the ravenous atmosphere. Gary Garrison proved to be an amiable MC for the group and they serenaded the "troops"—thankfully, it didn't rain anymore, although there were a few full moon vagrants bugging a few dudes.

This coming weekend should be busy for everyone. The main event, of course, is the Mr. San Francisco Drummer contest at the Eagle on Saturday night. Colossus is having their big "Green Party" (it is St. Patrick's Day, after all!) at 1015 Folsom featuring either a "storm" of jocks, or a jock named "Storm" (the press release wasn't quite clear). Also a Tag Team Green Jello Wrestling bout and the Lair of the Green

Worm. Gus Bean, you're too much! The doors to this "jaded" event open at 2130. Get there early or stand in line forever.

Also on Saturday, Ms. Rainbeau stars in the *Outrageous Leather Gender-Bender Show* at Amelia's Penthouse. The action there begins at 2000 and there's a \$6 cover. You know Ms. Rainbeau puts on a good show and you always get your money's worth. Even Delightful Desiree will be in this production—don't miss it!

They're having an art show at the Central YMCA (220 Golden Gate Ave.) for the Larkin St. Youth Center—the opening is tonight, March 15 until the 21.

On Sunday, the GDIs (president: Jim Leuer) are having their annual Spring Equinox beer bust at the Eagle from 1500-1800 for only \$7. And speaking of the GDIs, I didn't know Glenn "Glenda" Tomblin, the corresponding secretary was in cahoots with Sweet Lips!

★ ★ ★

Future events you might want to plan on attending/supporting: AIDS Emergency Fund Kick-Off Dinner, March 24 at Bimbo's and introducing the two new co-chairs: Jim Baroni and Samantha Samuels. Tickets are \$60. The AEF's goal for 1990 is \$900,000 so let's get busy and help them reach it. This Saturday night too, they're picking Mr. SF Cowboy at the California Club beginning at 1930; tickets are \$6 advance, \$7 at the door.



LA and SF basketball teams pose together at Kezar.

(Photo: Marcus)

Club MUD up at the RushRiv is gearing up for their big Mud Fest '90 on Saturday, May 12th. Brother Duke informs me that they're also planning a women's and a co-ed mud event (not at the same time) later this year. Believe it or not, there's a lot of interest in having fun in the mud and Club MUD has already been featured in two important TV segments! If you want to know more about Club MUD, write to them at: PO Box 277, Rio Nido, CA 95471. If you need the info faster, call Bro. Duke at (707) 869-0546.

The "official" cast party for all the stars of *Men Behind Bars V* is on Friday, March 23 at the SF-Eagle. The M.E.N. video of the whole show will be premiered at that time and it (the video) will be showing on all five screens. The proceeds of MBB-V will also be distributed to the stated beneficiaries that night too. The "private" video shots taken by Phil Tuggle backstage throughout MBB weekend will also be shown, so if you were doing anything naughty, it just might be on-screen that night! Are you reading this Nello Carlini?

On April 5 is the Fetish & Fantasy Masked Ball at Dreamland. My favorite and your favorite DJ Joshua Persky will provide the music; a new dance group, Triad, will perform in between bondage demonstrations by "experts" with prizes for best costume/best mask. Oh gosh! This is *all* being done by Alan Selby, repeat, Alan Selby—and he promises "much, much, much more" than is listed on the flyer. This event is in conjunction with the Intl. Ms. Leather Contest on Saturday, April 7 at the California Club. Call (415) 626-6103 for your tickets. The California Club may prove to be too small for this major event and it *will* be packed!



Ms. Rainbeau

(Photo: Allen Nomura)

Hey, the next Natl. Leather Ass'n/Bay Area meeting is on March 27 (Tuesday) at Amelia's Penthouse. Come and meet their new officers: Steve Patten and Shannon Garcia co-chairs; Membership Chair Fred Rudiger; Treasurer Alan Smart; Corresponding Sec'y Wayne Franks; Recording Sec'y "Puppy" [does this man have a "real" name?]; and three members at large: Don Thompson, Darrell Haven and J.C. Collins. I don't know if this organization is still headquartered in the East Bay or not.

THE DISH-A-HOLIC RIDES AGAIN

How rude! In all the hoopla of the Cable Car Awards, somebody forgot to give credit to David Starr, who, when you get right down to it, was the person responsible for getting Connie Francis to the Eagle for that award-winning Look-Alike Contest. He also managed to get the blow-up photos of La Francis that raised so much dough that day. Thank you David—you are a real sweetheart and we (the community) really appreciate what you did on that fun, fun day!

Late Flash! The Cream Sisters (Jolene, Albolene and Porcelana) will definitely be performing at the Mr. South of Market Contest on April 1!

If you caught the item last week about the bar owner and the boy caught on the roof of the Giftcenter Pavilion during the Cable Car Awards, you didn't read it right. I said it was a *bar owner* that tried to give the security guard a \$100 "honorarium" so as not to get escorted "out." Terry Thompson, Ed Gabet, Vern Stewart and Stanley Walker are *not* bar owners. They're all *bar managers*. And Allen White doesn't work in a bar, and neither does Michael Valerio—so it wasn't *them* either! And no, I still haven't found out who the bar owner is/was. I refuse to pay my informant \$100 to find out!

★ ★ ★

Well, a lot of our guys were in New Orleans for Mardi Gras and they are all gushing about the big Lords of Leather Krewe Ball. Al Kohner and Budd Smith always score big at this event. Their award-winning costumes this year were entitled: "Safe Sex Wedding Party" and consisted of four dudes in tuxedos accompanied by four of those blow-up female dolls in appropriate bridal gowns! At the Lords of Leather Ball, Budd was picked as the official escort for the Consort of the Lords of Leather King who was just one gorgeous version of King Tut. As for Budd, he always looks good when he's half-dressed. Al and Budd have fun wherever they go and are outstanding representatives for San Francisco around the world.

★ ★ ★

Hey boys and girls, have a wonderful weekend. Be sure to attend the Mr. SF Drummer Contest on Saturday night. I'll see you all next week with the latest dish from around here and wherever it flows in from. In the meantime, whether you're dishing, dashing, "doing," dumping or digging, make sure you're in leather while you're doing it! ▼



SF's award-winning Safe Sex Wedding Party won a prize at the Lords of Leather Ball in New Orleans Mardi Gras celebration.

(Photo: Courtesy L of L)



SF's Budd Smith escorted the Lords of Leather Krewe Consort at the Leather Ball in New Orleans Mardi Gras.

(Photo: Courtesy L of L)

A Preliminary For Mr. Northern California Drummer 1990 & Mr. Drummer 1990 For Residents of San Francisco, the East Bay & Northern Bay Area Counties.

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Contest Begins 8:30PM

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Chanteuse Extraordinaire
Head Judge:
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Applications Available at:
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Saturday
March 17
1990

Mr. San Francisco Drummer

1990 Contest

Return Application to Mr. S Leather By Wednesday March 14th, 6:00 PM

Feelings That He Might Be Gay

by Mark Johnson

Fratrimony
Released by: All Worlds Video
Produced by: Dirk Yates
Written & directed by: Jerry Douglas
Cast: Tim Lowe, Butch Taylor

Brotherly love is the subject of this two-man effort starring Tim Lowe as Gary and Butch Taylor as his older brother Steve. During the summer before joining Steve at college, Gary is having feelings that he might be gay, and it's getting harder and harder to suppress his feelings for Steve.

Though Steve is seeing a girlfriend, she isn't exactly what you'd call "easy," and this sets up a frustrating situation that makes bro' receptive to Gary's suggestions. Although Steve fights his feelings as hard as he can, the two eventually wind up moving from "just playing around" to full-fledged incest.

This film give both Tim

Lowe and Butch Taylor a real chance to act, and both do a fine job. If you've seen Butch Taylor in as many films as I have, you may have a hard time believing that he has great objections to sexual relations with Tim Lowe. Hopefully you haven't, and it's just a hazard of the job for me. I was extremely impressed with Tim Lowe's portrayal of a young man in search of his sexual identity.

If you're more concerned with numbers than the quality and the emotional foundation of sex, you may be disappointed that the film features only these two models. I find the development of the relationship between Gary and Steve one of the fresher approaches to male porn in awhile.

The settings, sound and videography are all first rate. Jerry Douglas has written and directed this film with great care and attention. ▼

Paradise Beach
Released by: Vivid Video
Written, produced & directed by: Jim West
Cast: Tom Rucker, Adam Grant, Chris Stone, Jake Coletti, Jon Vincent, Paul Duran, Pierce Daniels, Michael Spector

Jim West has put together a fine cast and an interesting storyline in *Paradise Beach*. Unfortunately, this film never rides the wave all the way to the beach.

Tom Rucker is leaving for a week's vacation on a tropical island. He calls a cab to run a couple of errands and drop him at the airport, and as luck would have it, his driver is Adam Grant.

The first scene involves Tom's fantasy of what it will be like making love on the beach. Chris Stone is attractive in this mutual masurbation encounter.

Tom stops by a store to pick up a bathing suit that he's



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ordered for the trip and comes upon Jon Vincent and Paul Duran in the changing room. This scene exhibits more sound than fury.

The next stop is Tom's travel agent's house to pick up his ticket, where Tom discovers Pierce Daniels and Michael Spector in the tub. Pierce is looking very good after all this time, and the scene is a great example of Jim West's film artistry. This is by far the best scene in the film.

What we now find out is that the proceedings to date have been a fantasy in Tom's unconscious mind. He's actually been hit by the cab while waiting in the street and had been knocked out. Being the gentleman he is, Adam takes Tom up to his apartment and does all he can to make up for Tom's missed vacation. I've seen both Tom and Adam more energetic and enthusiastic than here. ▼

I Do
Released by: Jocks
Produced by: Mark Reynolds
Directed by: Steve Scott
Cast: Andy Fuller, Steve Collins, Beau Matthews, Tim Kramer

On the eve of their wedding Steve and Cathy can't wait another minute. All the waiting and pent-up energy makes the sound of their lovemaking so loud that they wake up the best man, Dean, who is spending the night. While Dean watches and beats off, Cathy's brother, Bobby, who is also spending the night, watches Dean.

I guess Cathy's brother wants to make sure Steve is the right man for his sister, because he sends Steve to his haircutter for a trim and a hot blow job in the barber's chair.

Bobby is trying to reach the wedding's limo driver, but that guy's busy in the back seat with another driver, so Bobby pays a visit to the caterer, Tim Kramer. In this commercial kitchen we get the best encounter of the film. Tim Kramer and Jeff Carson are perfectly suited, and Tim proves he can do more than cook. ▼

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Corned Beef Weekend

Belated birthday and anniversary greetings to David and Bill on their 20th at last Sunday's party at the Gate Restaurant that went on for hours. They also own and run the Union Jack at 950 Leavenworth, just off Pine. And a nice welcome to their guests from Merrie Olde England, who are now in Palm Springs. Hope you all like the weather, Armin, Alfie and Peter.

A special memo to one of the B.A.R.'s faithful readers in Florida: Hi to Wilson in Tampa, and, yes, Helen is just fine and we are not mad at each other. Remember that you read it here.

Oy, it's St. Patty's Day at the Cinch, Saturday, March 17. At 6 p.m. it's the Corned Beef and Cabbage Gaelic Buffet, and from 9:30 on, the popular Gail Smith Show, so be sure to mark this evening on your calendar, all of you little Colleens—you too, Greta Grass.

Kimo's Penthouse: Mother is back every Thursday evening featuring music of the swinging 30s, jazz 40s and big band 50s. So come on down and have fun with Mother from 7 p.m. till midnight on Thursdays.

Sunday afternoon, March 18 from 3 till 6 at the SF-Eagle, the GDI's will be having their

annual Equinox Beer Bash for only \$7, so come on down and join Glenn Tomblin and the gang for a fun-filled day...right, David Stoll?

Please join Jackie, Tony and Ron and of course, yours truly, on Friday, March 16 from 5 till 8 p.m. at the popular Yacht Club for a St. Patty's Day Party. There'll be a do-it-yourself corned beef sandwich with all of the trimmings. And of course, some special drink prices for all during that time slot. So come on down and join in the festivities to start the great Irish weekend. And yes, 'me Sainted Mother's maiden name was Healy', so I am half Irish.

Yes it is true the one and only Eternal Flame is on the plank at the New Hob Nob on Tuesday mornings from 6 till noon and Wednesday evenings from 7 p.m. till 2. And you know she'll be giving all of the dirt that Greta has forgotten. I understand that Empress Maxine is going to take gossip lessons from Flame.

Yes, that is the reigning Empress Marlana on the plank at Kimo's on Sundays during the day. And of course you'll find her at different spots, mainly at the Mint at other times. A girl has to live and eat. You do know that don't you Greta

Grass?

On Saturday, March 24 from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. the popular New Belle Saloon on Polk Street will be having a *Bon Voyage* party for a group of 12 people who are taking the very popular RSVP Cruise to the Mexican Riviera. Both Russ and Totie invite you to join them and their friends for the pre-sailing party. It should be a lot of fun.

On Saturday, March 17, the New Hob Nob will be having a celebration from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with that "ya hear me?" Ronnie Lynn and Hal Weber as hostess and host. So do join them in the festivities and yes, there will be corned beef sandwiches and all of the trimmings.

Well, it is that time again. On Friday, March 23 from 5 till ?? the Yacht Club will be hosting a birthday bash, her 43rd, for that popular Dolly Dale. So you all come on down and join in the festivities as the King and Queen of the Polk Gulch Saloon, Dennis and Jackie will be doing the honors along with Tony and yours truly. Forty-three? Gosh, Dolly, you must have been way underage when I hired you years ago out of Houston, Texas!

Don't tell me it isn't a small world! David Hamilton—aka—Mame of Portland, was in New Orleans for Mardi Gras and sitting at the same table, after about ten minutes, he



How can you say that Sweet Lips was never young, Greta Grass?

discovered an old and dear friend from San Francisco; yes, it was Mark Abramson, the co-producer of *Men Behind Bars*, and of course, Mame had been sitting there raving about how wonderful this year's show was. Nice to have seen you at The Special the other day, Mark.

Thank you Gary MacGowan of the White Swallow on Polk Street for the ride home the other day from the flower market. It was nice to dish all the dirt with you. Don't forget, we are going to have lunch soon! No cocktills.

Well, there is going to be a Very Special Auction: At the Cinch at 8 p.m. till ?? on Wednesday, April 4. This is a benefit for two of our popular bartenders in the city: Mr. Rome Parady and Mr. Dick "Ms. Minnie" Gersbach. They are both quite ill and in need, and I for one remember all the fine things they did through-

out the years for needy people. So, donations for this auction will be accepted at the Cinch, Hobnob and the Yacht Club.

Richard and Mario have graciously allowed the Cinch to be the base as it is centrally located on Polk Street and is large enough to hold a good crowd. There will be special guest auctioneers and it promises to be an interesting evening. Please mark Wednesday, April 4 on your calendar. For more info, contact Richard and Mario at the Cinch or Greta Grass or Tony Lasagna at the Yacht Club. ▼



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Erasure

(Continued from page 40)

Wars, part prehistoric landing, part Amazon jungle, with tons of fog, the stage was one heck of a backdrop.

For two hours, Erasure ran nonstop through the majority of their four-album repertoire of songs, including everything from the current *Wild!* LP. Vince Clarke created the band's musical signature. Previously, Clarke put his stamp on works with **Depeche Mode**, and later as half of the group **Yazz**, which featured **Alison Moyet** on vocals.

All of the music for Tuesday's performance was stored electronically on Clarke's keyboard. As it played back, Clarke would finger accenting chords here and there, or he would occasionally strum a few chords on guitar in accompaniment.

You might think a two-man band would lack presence in a live setting, but you'd be entirely wrong. Bell is a true showman. His stage persona and antics easily compensate for the paucity of company. Had there been a power failure, his traipsing and vamping would have kept the crowd in stitches anyway.

After each song, Bell would make comments to this

predominantly straight crowd that expressed his gay pride. The crowd roared back a resounding acknowledgment of acceptance each and every time. Whether the group was singing "Paper Roses" in tribute to **Donny and Marie Osmond**, or Bell was updating a **Doris Day** trademark that he retitled as, "Gay Sera Sera," this crowd couldn't get enough.

Backing Bell on vocals were two female singers. Also sharing the stage were two male dancers dressed in matching spandex outfits. It is most satisfying to see an established group such as this enjoying the benefits of international stardom.

From the very start Erasure never compromised their sexuality out of fear of alienating their audience. Erasure has proven that in the end, as far as the fans were concerned, it's the music that matters. Major applause to Sire/Warner Bros. records for *not* giving Erasure any special treatment, but instead for backing them with the same 100 percent support they give all their artists.

Baby Ford, an up-and-coming new talent was the scheduled opener for Erasure, however he was unable to perform because of technical difficulties with one of his computers. ▼

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